



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

FOUR RIVERS FIELD OFFICE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN RECORD of DECISION



August 2023

BLM Mission

The Bureau of Land Management's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Four Rivers Field Office
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705



In Reply Refer To:
1610 (010)

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is pleased to announce that the BLM Four Rivers Field Office (FRFO) Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) is complete. The Approved RMP will provide guidance for managing approximately 783,160 surface acres and 1,173,170 acres of mineral estate, including split estate, in Ada, Adams, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties administered by the BLM.

The enclosed Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved RMP were prepared in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The ROD's approval serves as the final decision for all land use planning decisions described in the enclosed FRFO Approved RMP.

The Proposed RMP/Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was subject to a 30-day protest period that ended on March 16, 2020. The BLM received eight protest letters, and the BLM Director reviewed all protest issues for the proposed planning decisions. The Director concluded that the BLM Idaho State Director followed the applicable laws, regulations, and policies, and considered all relevant resource information and public input. The BLM Director denied the protests, which is documented in the Director's Summary Protest Resolution Report of May 2020. The 60-day Governor's consistency review period for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, which promotes consistency with State government plans or policies, concluded on April 14, 2020. The Governor submitted a letter identifying some concerns in response to the consistency review. The BLM thoroughly reviewed the Governor's letter and confirmed that the Proposed RMP is consistent with existing State plans; however, as a result of the Governor's consistency review, the BLM made modifications to the Approved RMP to provide additional clarification.

In 2023, the BLM proposed to change several allocations and management direction for fluid mineral leasing and development from those described in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. On May 8, 2023, a Notice of Significant Change was published in the Federal Register initiating a 30-day public comment opportunity. The BLM received 34 letters and comments. While most of the comments addressed the fluid mineral direction and supported the changes identified, other comments addressed aspects of the RMP that were addressed during previous public involvement opportunities and responses to those can be found in Appendix Z of the Final EIS and Proposed RMP.

The ROD and Approved RMP are available at <http://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/home>. Limited printed copies or CD copies are available by request from the Boise District Office, 3948 S. Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705 or by calling (208) 384-3300.

The BLM greatly appreciates all those who contributed to the FRFO RMP planning effort,

particularly members of the public, who provided important feedback; our cooperating agencies, which included federal and state governments; the Resource Advisory Council; and Native American Tribes. The extensive public interest and involvement in this planning process ensured that the Approved RMP will sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of BLM-administered lands for present and future generations to use and enjoy.

Sincerely,

**KAREN
KELLEHER**

Digitally signed by
KAREN KELLEHER
Date: 2023.08.17
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Karen Kelleher
State Director
Bureau of Land Management Idaho

Four Rivers Field Office

**Record of Decision and
Approved Resource Management Plan**

Prepared by
US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Four Rivers Field Office
Boise, Idaho

Cooperating Agencies:
State of Idaho, Office of Energy and Mineral Resources
U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

August 2023

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Acronyms

Abandoned Mine Land	AML (minerals)
Air Quality	AQ
Allocation	AL
All-terrain Vehicle	ATV
American Indian Religious Freedom Act	AIRFA
Animal Unit Month	AUM
Application for Permit to Drill	APD
Appropriate Management Level	AML (wild horses)
Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment	ARMPA
Aquatic Resources	AR
Area of Critical Environmental Concern	ACEC
Aquatic Riparian Management Strategy	ARMS
Avian Power Line Interaction Committee	APLIC
Backcountry Byways and National Historic Trails	NT
Backcountry Conservation Area	BCA
Best Management Practice	BMP
Biological Assessment	BA
Biological Opinion	BO
Boise District Office	BDO
Breakhorse Power	BHP
Bureau of Land Management	BLM
Bureau of Reclamation	BOR
Burned Area Emergency Response	BAER
Clean Air Act	CAA
Clean Water Act	CWA
Code of Federal Regulations	CFR
Colony Forming Units	CFU
Condition of Approval	COA
Conservation Objectives Team	COT
Controlled Surface Use	CSU
Cooperative Weed Management Area	CWMA
Council on Environmental Quality	CEQ
Cubic Feet Per Second	CFS
Cultural Resources	CR
Department of the Interior	DOI
Department of Environmental Quality	DEQ
Designation	DE
Desired Future Condition	DFC
Determination of NEPA Adequacy	DNA
Dissolved Oxygen	DO
Ecological Site Disruption	ESD
Element Occurrence	EO (plants)
Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation	ESR

Endangered Species Act	ESA
Environmental Assessment	EA
Environmental Impact Statement	EIS
Environmental Protection Agency	EPA
Executive Office of the President	EOP
Executive Order	EO
Extensive Recreation Management Area	ERMA
Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA
Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976	FLPMA
Final Environmental Impact Statement	FEIS
Fire Management Plan	FMP
Fish and Wildlife	FW
Forestry and Woodland Management	FOR
Four Rivers Field Office	FRFO
Functional-at risk	FAR
General	GE
General Habitat Management Areas	GHMA (Greater Sage-grouse)
Geographic Information System	GIS
Goals	GL
Greater Sage-grouse	GRSG
Hazardous Materials and Public Safety	HMPS
Herd Area	HA
Herd Management Area	HMA
Horsepower	HP
Idaho Administrative Procedures Act	IDAPA
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality	IDEQ
Idaho Department of Fish and Game	IDFG
Idaho Department of Water Resources	IDWR
Idaho Native Plant Society	INPS
Impaired Waters List of the Clean Water Act (Section 303)	303(d)
Important Habitat Management Areas	IHMA (Greater Sage-grouse)
Interdisciplinary Team	ID Team
Kilogram	kg
Kilometer	km
Land Use Authorization	LUA
Lands and Realty	LR
Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	LWC
Liter	l
Livestock Grazing	LG
Locatable Minerals	LOC
Management Direction	MD
Management Framework Plan	MFP
Memorandum of Understanding	MOU
Milligrams	mg
Milliliter	ml
Mineral Resources	MR

National Ambient Air Quality Standards	NAAQS
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969	NEPA
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966	NHPA
National Historic Trail	NHT
National Park Service	NPS
National Recreation Trail	NRT
National Register of Historic Places	NRHP
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act	NAGPRA
Natural Resources Conservation Service	NRCS
New Source Performance Standards	NSPS
No Surface Occupancy	NSO
Nonfunctional	NF
Notice of Availability	NOA
Notice of Intent	NOI
Objective	OB
Office of Energy and Mineral Resources	OEMR
Off-highway Vehicle	OHV
Outstandingly Remarkable Value	ORV
Oxides of Nitrogen	NO _x
Paleontological Resources	PR
Paleontological Resources Protection Act	PRPA
Planning Area	PA
Population Management Unit	PMU
Porcine Zona Pellucida	PZP
Probable Fossil Yield Classification	PFYC
Prevention of Significant Deterioration	PSD
Priority Habitat Management Areas	PHMA (Greater Sage-grouse)
Proper Functioning Condition	PFC
Record of Decision	ROD
Recreation	REC
Recreation and Public Purpose (Act)	R&PP
Required Design Features	RDF
Research Natural Area	RNA
Reserve Common Allotment	RCA
Resource Advisory Council	RAC
Resource Management Plan	RMP
Right(s)-of-Way	ROW
Riparian Habitat Conservation Area	RHCA
Salable Minerals	SAL
Slickspot peppergrass	LEPA
Soil Survey Geographic Database	SSURGO
Special Recreation Management Area	SRMA
Special Recreation Permit	SRP
Special Status Plant(s)	SSP
Special Status Species	SSS
Standards and Guidelines	S&Gs

Standard Operating Procedures	SOP
State Historic Preservation Office	SHPO
Technical Reference	TR
Temporary Non-Renewable	TNR
Timing Limitation Stipulation	TLS
Total Maximum Daily Load	TMDL
Travel Management Area	TMA
Travel and Transportation Management	TTM
Tribal Interests	TI
United States	US
United States Code	USC
United States Department of Agriculture	USDA
United States Department of the Interior	USDO/DOI
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	USFWS
United States Forest Service	USFS
United States Geological Survey	USGS
Utility Task Vehicle	UTV
Vegetation Resources	VG
Visual Resources	VR
Visual Resource Management	VRM
Volatile Organic Compounds	VOCs
West Wide Energy Corridor	WWEC
Wild and Scenic River	WSR
Wild Horse	WH
Wild Horse and Burro	WHB
Wilderness Study Area	WSA
Wildfire Ecology and Fuels Management	WFF
Wildland Urban Interface	WUI

I. Record of Decision

I.1 INTRODUCTION

The Four Rivers Field Office (FRFO) Planning Area (PA) (Appendix A – Map 1) is composed of approximately eight million acres of public and private lands in ten Idaho counties: Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington. Additionally, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administers mineral estate, but no surface estate, in Camas County. The BLM manages approximately 783,160 acres of public land (both surface and mineral estate [below ground]) and 1,173,170 acres of federal mineral estate, including split-estate. Approximately 83 percent of the land within the PA is managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS) or is privately owned. BLM-administered lands in the PA vary from small, scattered parcels to large, contiguous blocks composed of diverse vegetation communities (Appendix A – Map 2). Collectively, the BLM-administered lands (surface and mineral estate) are considered the Decision Area.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) directs the United States (US) Department of the Interior (DOI), BLM to develop and periodically revise or amend its resource management plans (RMPs), which guide management of BLM-administered lands. This Record of Decision (ROD) approves the RMP to manage the public lands administered by the FRFO. The FRFO Approved RMP is based on the FRFO Proposed RMP/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) (USDOI BLM 2020), and changes to the fluid mineral allocations and management direction (USDOI BLM 2023) (see Section I.6.7), with additions such as responses to the Governor’s Consistency Review (see Section I.6.6) and edits to eliminate redundancy or provide clarification (see Section I.2.1). The background and rationale for approving the proposed decisions contained in the Proposed RMP, as well as clarifications and modifications made to address protests to the Proposed RMP, are described in this ROD.

I.2 THE DECISION

This Record of Decision (ROD) approves the BLM’s attached Four Rivers Field Office Resource Management Plan (Approved RMP). This ROD and Approved RMP provide overall direction for management of all resources on BLM-administered land (both surface and sub-surface) in the Four Rivers Field Office planning area.

The BLM will continue to maintain the project’s ePlanning website which contains an electronic version of the ROD and Approved RMP and all of the maps referred to in the Approved RMP, as well as the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and other pertinent documents at: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/home>.

I.2.1 Clarifications and Modifications

During preparation of the Approved RMP, changes were made to the Proposed RMP to correct errors and to clarify decisions. Changes include minor grammatical corrections, editorial revisions to reduce redundancy, corrections to data errors or omissions, and editorial revisions to clearly delineate the Approved RMP decisions as goals, objectives, designations, allocations and management direction.

The Bennett Hills Backcountry Conservation Area designation has been expanded to include an additional 34,870 acres that were previously analyzed in Alternative B of the Draft RMP and Draft EIS. This change was based on refinements of the boundary to match landmarks on the ground and to reflect consistency between the purpose and intent of the Backcountry

Conservation Area (BCA) in coordination with the game unit management in the area.

In 2023, the BLM proposed to change several allocations and management direction for fluid mineral leasing and development from those described in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. On May 8, 2023, a Notice of Significant Change was published in the Federal Register initiating a 30-day public comment opportunity to address these changes (see section I.6.7). These changes are based on information available to the BLM after the February 2020 release of the Proposed RMP/EIS. The new information is relevant to fluid mineral management actions. The changes: 1) add one additional fluid minerals management direction regarding prioritization of mineral leasing within high potential areas; 2) separate the fluid mineral allocation into two - one for oil and gas and one for geothermal; 3) allocate areas of low or no potential for oil and gas development as closed; and 4) change one fluid mineral management direction to reflect separation of these allocations. In addition, three other allocations in other resource sections of the Proposed RMP were changed and one added to reflect the separation of oil and gas from geothermal management actions.

I.3 ALTERNATIVES

The 2019 Draft RMP/EIS analyzed in detail four alternatives, including a no action alternative. Alternatives were developed to include different combinations of management direction addressing issues and resolving conflicts among resources and resource uses. In addition to addressing issues, the alternatives met the purpose and need for the RMP, were not remote or speculative, and were technically and economically practical or feasible. Each alternative was a complete RMP that provided a framework for multiple-use management of the full spectrum of resources, resource uses, and resource programs within the PA. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS analyzed the Proposed Plan.

I.3.1 Alternative A

The No Action Alternative was defined as continuation of the current management direction. The 1983 Kuna Management Framework Plan (MFP), the 1987 Jarbidge RMP, and the 1988 Cascade RMP were the basis for Alternative A. The land use plans in the PA have been amended by several actions including the Idaho and Southwestern Montana Greater Sage-grouse Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment in 2015 (USDOI BLM 2015b). Alternative A incorporated those amendments as described in the Draft RMP/EIS. The existing designations, allocations, and management direction contained in the Kuna MFP and Jarbidge and Cascade RMPs as amended would have been implemented in their respective areas, unless changed by laws, regulations, or policies, or through amendment. Land tenure adjustments only occurred on those areas identified as available for sale in the Kuna MFP or the Jarbidge and Cascade RMPs, as amended.

I.3.2 Alternative B

Alternative B emphasized protecting natural and cultural resource values from potential negative impacts of population growth and increased use and used more protective measures for plants and wildlife. While some areas emphasized recreation and community development uses, the primary emphases were conservation and reduction of habitat fragmentation and resource degradation. Land sale/acquisition criteria focused on natural resource protection and maintenance of migratory corridors.

I.3.3 Alternative C

Increased population growth was a primary factor influencing land management direction in the PA. The actions proposed in Alternative C helped accommodate growth. The alternative

emphasized allocating lands as “available” for sale for local community expansion, providing economic expansion through extractive energy resource use, and providing recreational use diversity. Land sale/acquisition criteria emphasized using local community plans to achieve social and economic goals.

I.3.4 Alternative D

The emphasis of Alternative D managed public lands to promote economic development while conserving natural and cultural resources. Alternative D recognized the diversity of needs and issues throughout the PA. Concerns about wildland fire, big game winter range, migration corridors, and connectivity resulted in proactive management for natural and cultural resources while accommodating regional growth. FLPMA recognizes resource uses as part of the policy of the United States and under the standard of FLPMA’s multiple-use mandate, the Proposed Plan (based on Alternative D) was determined to best address the diverse needs in the planning area within a comprehensive framework for the management of public lands.

I.3.5 Environmentally Preferable Alternative

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations require that a ROD state which alternatives were considered to be "environmentally preferable." 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1505.2(a)(2)(CEQ 2022). Question 6A of CEQ’s 40 most-asked questions regarding CEQ’s National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) regulations defines that term to ordinarily mean the alternative which best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources.

Alternative B is most protective of resources in the planning area and thus would be the most "environmentally preferable" as that term is defined in Question 6A of CEQ’s 40 asked questions regarding NEPA.

FLPMA requires the BLM to manage the public lands for multiple use and sustained yield. (See FLPMA § 302). Section 102(12) of FLPMA declares as policy of the United States that "the public lands be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber from the public lands including implementation of the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1876, 30 U.S.C. 21a) as it pertains to the public lands."

I.4 MITIGATION

The Council on Environmental Quality states that mitigation includes avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing, or eliminating over time, and compensating for adverse environmental impacts (40 CFR 1508.1(s)). A ROD must state whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted, and if not, why not (40 CFR 1505.2(a)(3)).

In an RMP, most of the measures that would avoid, minimize, rectify, or reduce environmental impacts are integral to the design of the alternatives and have been included in the designations, allocations, and management direction.

The selected alternative, presented as the Proposed Plan alternative in the FRFO Proposed RMP/Final EIS, as modified by the Notice of Significant Change, adopts the mitigations included in the designations, allocations, and management direction for that alternative. All mitigation adopted in the selected alternative are included as part of the alternative’s design; there are no additional mitigation measures adopted with this decision. Alternatives have incorporated measures that include restrictions on authorized uses on BLM-administered lands, including

seasonal closures, limitations on surface disturbance, and application of best management practices (BMPs) and standard operating procedures (SOPs). Resource programs such as air, water, soils, vegetation, and wildlife habitat are further protected through implementation level requirements and mitigation.

BMPs and SOPs included in the Approved RMP are not intended to be a complete list, but rather to show examples of commonly used practices the BLM may require, to reduce impacts of surface-disturbing activities, use, or occupancy.

I.5 PLAN MONITORING

Consistent with 43 CFR Part 1610.4-9, the BLM will monitor the management direction under the Approved RMP with plan evaluations conducted periodically. Management actions arising from activity plan decisions will be evaluated to ensure consistency with RMP objectives. The BLM will use land use plan evaluations to determine if the decisions in this Approved RMP, supported by the accompanying NEPA analysis, are still valid.

I.6 COLLABORATION, CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

I.6.1 Collaboration

Public participation, intergovernmental coordination and Tribal consultations occurred throughout the planning process beginning with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on April 3, 2008. The BLM worked with an Intergovernmental Coordination Group composed of State and Federal agencies in the development of the Draft RMP and Draft EIS. The Proposed RMP and Final EIS considered all substantive oral and written comments received during the 90-day public comment period for this Draft RMP and Draft EIS. In addition, members of the public with standing had the opportunity to protest the content of the Proposed RMP and Final EIS during the specified 30-day protest period following the release of the Proposed RMP and Final EIS. The Resource Advisory Council was also involved throughout the development of the Draft and Proposed RMP.

In May 2019, upon public release of the Draft RMP and Draft EIS, the BLM sent letters to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO); Idaho State Historic Society; and the Office of the Governor. Formal cooperating agencies included the State of Idaho, by and through the Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR); U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR); and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service (USFS). Cooperating agencies provided input into the development of alternatives and reviewed preliminary versions of the Draft EIS to identify issues of consistency with other relevant plans. Additional information on collaboration can be found in Appendix B.

I.6.2 Tribal Consultation

Consultation with Native American Tribes is part of the BLM's planning process. The BLM consulted with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation. Government-to-government consultation continued throughout the RMP process to ensure that the concerns of tribal groups were considered in developing the RMP. Additional information on the consultation process can be found in Appendix B.

I.6.3 Public Scoping

The scoping period began with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on April 3, 2008. The BLM sought public comments on issues to be addressed in the plan, concerns about the process, planning criteria, and the development of the range of alternatives to be analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS. The opportunity to comment was also publicized through notices published in newspapers and a project website. Nine public scoping meetings were held throughout the planning area. Overall, the BLM received 11,000 individual comments and 569 unique letters. Additional information on the scoping issues addressed is in the Scoping Report available on the project's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/xnsn6>.

I.6.4 Public Review of and Comment on the Draft RMP/EIS

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft RMP/EIS on May 24, 2019. The NOA initiated a 90-day public comment period. Due to public interest and requests from elected officials, the BLM extended the comment period an additional 30 days, until September 23, 2019. The BLM held four public meetings throughout the PA in June 2019.

The BLM received approximately 12,000 comments that included both form letters and unique individual comments, and 151 substantive comments. Substantive comments were grouped by topic, summarized, and responded to in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in response to the Draft RMP/EIS. Comments pertained to a number of issues, including planning issues, NEPA adequacy, consistency with other laws, and the adequacy of public notification. In addition, comments were received on a number of resource topics, including but not limited to air quality, areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs), comprehensive travel and transportation management, land tenure, land use authorizations, fish and wildlife, fire and fuels management, geology and minerals, lands with wilderness characteristics, livestock grazing, public health and safety, recreation and visitor services, socioeconomics, special status species, vegetation, and wild horses.

I.6.5 Protest Resolution

Pursuant to the BLM's planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2), any person who participated in the FRFO RMP planning process and had an interest that might be adversely affected by the planning decisions could protest approval of the proposed plan. The EPA published the NOA in the Federal Register for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS starting the 30-day protest period on February 14, 2020. The protest period ended on March 16, 2020.

The BLM received eight protest letters during the 30-day protest period and dismissed five protest letters. One letter was dismissed because of inappropriate submission; one was dismissed because of untimely submission; and three were dismissed because they only contained comments. The BLM received three protest letters with standing from the following parties:

- Western Watersheds Project
- WildLands Defense
- Simplot Land and Livestock

Once the standing of the protesters was determined, protest letters were reviewed for valid protest issues.

The BLM responded to the following protest issues raised by protesting parties:

- Endangered Species Act consultation
- ACECs

- Land tenure adjustments
- Unnecessary or undue degradation
- Best available information
- Impact analysis for climate change, livestock grazing, wildlife, Greater Sage-grouse, socioeconomics, and vegetation
- Reasonably foreseeable development for oil and gas
- Range of alternatives
- Water resources, riparian areas, and wetlands

The BLM Director's decisions on the protests are summarized in the Director's Summary Protest Resolution Report Four Rivers Field Office Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement on May 1, 2020. The BLM Director concluded that the BLM Idaho State Director followed the applicable laws, regulations, and policies and considered all relevant resource information and public input in developing the Proposed RMP. The BLM Director also concluded that the Proposed RMP did not require changes. The protest decision of the BLM Director is the final decision of the Department of the Interior (43 CFR 1610.5-2(b)) which means that there is no opportunity to appeal the Director's protest decision or appeal the final land use planning decisions to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. Each protesting party was notified in writing of the BLM Director's protest decision and the disposition of their protests. The Director's resolution report is available on the BLM's Protest Resolution website, at:

<https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation/protest-resolution-reports>.

I.6.6 Governor's Consistency Review of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS

The BLM initiated the Idaho Governor's Consistency Review required by 43 CFR 1610.3-2(e) through a letter from the BLM State Director dated February 14, 2020. The BLM received a letter from the Idaho Governor dated April 10, 2020. The Governor's Office advised the BLM that the Proposed RMP had a number of inconsistencies and provided recommendations. The recommendations had been raised during public participation and included questions regarding Greater Sage-grouse and bighorn sheep management and post-fire livestock grazing. The BLM State Director accepted some of the recommendations, did not accept others and advised the Governor of his decision in writing. Outcomes from the governor's consistency review included the following modifications/clarifications:

- Management Direction (MD) Special Status Species (SSS) 08 was revised to reflect that as planning guidance for Greater Sage-grouse is adjusted, the FRFO RMP would also be amended and adjusted by that guidance.
- MD Livestock Grazing (LG) 05 has been revised to clarify the direction consistent with the Idaho Governor's Executive Order (EO) 2022-03.
- Objective (OB) LG-02 and MD Fish and Wildlife (FW) 08, LG-07, and LG-08 have been revised to incorporate reference and consistency with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) bighorn sheep guidance. This is currently described in the Idaho Bighorn Sheep Management Plan (IDFG 2010) and the management decisions acknowledges that this may be revised by the State in the future. The objective and management direction were expanded to include coordination with the State Agency.

I.6.7 Notice of Significant Change

In 2023, the BLM proposed to change several allocations and management direction for fluid mineral leasing and development from those described in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. On May 8, 2023, BLM published a Notice of Significant Change in the Federal Register in accordance with 43 CFR 1610.5-1(b), announcing a 30-day comment period on the significant changes to the proposed plan. The BLM proposed to change several allocations and management direction for fluid mineral leasing and development from those described in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. The BLM coordinated the proposed changes with the State of Idaho through OEMR. The proposed changes had been previously analyzed in the Draft EIS/Draft RMP, therefore a supplemental EIS was not necessary. The BLM received 34 letters and comments. While most of the comments addressed the fluid mineral direction and supported the changes identified, other comments addressed aspects of the RMP that were addressed during previous public involvement opportunities and responses to those can be found in Appendix Z of the Final EIS and Proposed RMP.

I.6.8 Section 7 Consultation

In accordance with the requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the BLM consulted and conferred with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to ensure that the BLM's proposed action will not jeopardize the continued existence of listed threatened, endangered, proposed species for listing, or associated critical habitat.

The BLM drafted a biological assessment (BA) and conducted several meetings with the USFWS to discuss and refine the BA content and analysis. The BA discussed the effects on three listed and designated species and proposed critical habitat for two species in the PA from the Proposed Plan (in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS). The BLM delivered the final BA to the USFWS for comments and concurrence on February 10, 2020.

On April 22, 2020, the USFWS issued the biological opinion (BO) for the FRFO Proposed RMP/Final EIS. The BO concluded that management under the RMP will not jeopardize the continued existence of northern Idaho ground squirrel (*Urocitellus brunneus*) and slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*)(LEPA) and will not destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat for LEPA. USFWS also concurred with the BLM's determination that the Approved RMP may affect but is not likely to adversely affect bull trout and bull trout critical habitat.

The BO included two conservation measures to minimize or avoid possible adverse effects to LEPA Critical Habitat during site-specific implementation activities and are incorporated into the RMP as management direction (MD-SSS-16 and MD-SSS-17 respectively):

- Coordinate with adjacent non-federal landowners within or near LEPA habitats to further the conservation of the species, including spraying herbicide in a manner that minimizes effects to LEPA and sharing information about the life history, threats, and conservation needs of the species.
- Facilitate LEPA recovery through continued engagement with the Service and other partners by participating on the LEPA Technical Team and contributing to recovery planning and implementation efforts.

On May 4, 2023, USFWS finalized the designation of critical habitat for LEPA, and the rule became effective on June 5, 2023. On June 16, 2023, BLM reinitiated Section 7 ESA Consultation for the Four Rivers Proposed RMP/Final EIS with specific regard to newly designated critical

habitat. On August 1, 2023, USFWS issued a letter of concurrence for the FRFO Proposed RMP/Final EIS regarding designated Critical Habitat for LEPA.

The biological opinion and letter of concurrence are available on the BLM ePlanning website. As the effects to Proposed Critical Habitat and designated Critical Habitat are the same from the designations, allocations and management direction described in the approved plan, consultation for designated Critical Habitat resulted in the same conservation measures with the exception that providing input for critical habitat designation efforts is no longer applicable.

I.7 RATIONALE FOR THE DECISION

The decision to approve the Approved RMP was prepared under the authority and regulations implementing the FLPMA. This decision considers statutory, regulatory, and national policy considerations and is based on review and comments from the public; industry; federal, Tribal, state, and local governments and agencies; and cooperating agencies that participated in the planning process.

Through the review process, methods to reduce environmental harm were incorporated into the Approved RMP. The Approved RMP best addresses the diverse needs in the planning area within a comprehensive framework for the management of public lands. The Approved RMP is the product of extensive coordination, including the active engagement of several state and federal cooperating agencies and reflects consideration of the multi-jurisdictional environment in which most of the scattered BLM-managed lands are located. The Approved RMP has resulted from analysis and discussion of the emerging and ongoing economic and demographic changes occurring within the planning area. The Approved RMP best meets the purpose and need and addresses the identified issues, to ensure that the BLM administers lands in the planning area in accordance with the multiple use and sustained yield principles of the FLPMA and other legal mandates by balancing the goals and objectives of all values and programs, as well as consideration of the economic and social needs and desires of the public land users.

Several management issues were identified to help focus management direction and evaluate responses to concerns identified through internal and external (public) scoping, Tribal consultation and cooperating agency feedback. These issues were summarized into three broad descriptions:

Issue 1 - Management of Scattered BLM-land Base

During the development of the Approved RMP, other agency and private landowner coordination and cooperation was incorporated. These relationships are crucial to effectively managing resources over a scattered land ownership pattern. The Approved RMP directs that lands, including scattered parcels that meet established criteria, will be retained in federal ownership while disposal of parcels that do not meet the criteria could be considered.

Issue 2: Balancing Increasing Public Demand with Conservation of Fragile Resources

The BLM anticipates population, visitor use, and the demand for recreational use in the FRFO planning area will continue to increase during the planning period. The Approved RMP establishes four recreation management areas and also provides management direction to reduce user conflicts and provide protection for resources while still meeting the recreational demands.

Issue 3: Balancing Resource Use (including energy development) with Other Uses of

BLM-administered Lands

The Approved RMP provides opportunities for mineral and energy development, livestock grazing, forest products, and recreation, while identifying conditions for permitted activities and commercial uses to ensure protection of resources. The Approved RMP identifies acres available for solar, and wind development and allocates acres for fluid mineral leasing and identifies stipulations.

The land use decisions provide the overall direction for management of resources and resource uses in the FRFO PA. Land use plan decisions are expressed as goals and objectives (desired outcomes), allowable uses (allocations), and management direction anticipated to achieve desired outcomes. Land use decisions identified in the Approved RMP are final and become effective when this ROD is signed. The decisions included in this ROD and Approved RMP supersede all the previous BLM land use plans that guided management within the boundaries of the FRFO.

I.8 APPROVAL

The protest decision of the BLM Director is the final decision of the Department of the Interior (43 CFR 1610.5-2(b)) which means that there is no opportunity to appeal the Director's protest decision or appeal the final land use planning decisions to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. The decision is hereby made to approve the attached Resource Management Plan. This Record of Decision serves as the final decision for the Resource Management Plan and becomes effective on the date it is signed by the BLM State Director.

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER RECOMMENDATION

Having considered a full range of alternatives, associated impacts, and public and agency input, I recommend the adoption and implementation of the Four River Field Office Resource Management Plan.


 Digitally signed by BRENT RALSTON
Date: 2023.08.03 22:41:05 -06'00'

Brent Ralston
Field Manager
Four Rivers Field Office

Date

DISTRICT MANAGER CONCURRENCE

I concur with the adoption and implementation of the Four Rivers Field Office Resource Management Plan.

 Digitally signed by TANYA
THRIFT
Date: 2023.08.04
12:53:51 -06'00'

Tanya M. Thrift
District Manager
Boise District Office

Date

STATE DIRECTOR APPROVAL

In consideration of the foregoing, I approve the Four Rivers Field Office Resource Management Plan.

 Digitally signed by KAREN
KELLEHER
Date: 2023.08.17 14:27:59
-06'00'

Karen Kelleher
State Director
Bureau of Land Management Idaho

Date

II. Approved Resource Management Plan

Table II-1 lists the goals, objectives, designations, allocations and management direction contained in the Approved RMP. Maps depicting resource information, allocations and stipulations applicable to surface-disturbing activities in the Approved RMP are included in Appendix A. Appendices C through I contain supporting information for decisions outlined in the Approved RMP.

Table II.1 – Approved Resource Management Plan

GENERAL SECTION (GE)	
Management Decisions (MD):	
MD-GE-01	Consult, coordinate, and collaborate with appropriate Tribes and federal, state, and local governments and agencies in the development of projects and activities.
MD-GE-02	Coordinate with potentially affected private landowners in the development of projects and activities.
TRIBAL INTERESTS (TI)	
Goals (GL):	
GL-TI-01	Manage Traditional Cultural Properties in consultation with affected Tribes, allowing for the preservation of sites and access to Traditional Cultural Properties to accommodate for traditions, customs, and practices.
GL-TI-02	Provide for Tribal treaty rights and interests on unoccupied public lands.
Objectives (OB):	
OB-TI-01	Educate the public about the importance of traditional Tribal use of the PA.
OB-TI-02	Provide Tribal access to the PA for hunting, fishing, and gathering and to practice Tribal religions and cultures.
OB-TI-03	Maintain traditional/cultural use values and the health of land and water resources so treaty rights and interests can be fulfilled by Tribal members on unoccupied public lands.
Management Direction:	
MD-TI-01	Protect the physical condition of sacred sites and traditional cultural properties and preserve Tribal access to such sites in accordance with NHPA, AIRFA, and EO 13007-Sacred Sites.
MD-TI-02	Camping within 50 feet of rock shelters and/or caves is prohibited.
MD-TI-03	Consider the 1868 Fort Bridger Treaty when making land management decisions affecting BLM-administered public lands. Consider Tribal members' off-reservation treaty rights (i.e., gathering, hunting, fishing, and practicing Tribal cultural activities) on unoccupied public lands.
MD-TI-04	Work collaboratively with the Tribes regarding the identification and management of traditional cultural properties.

TRIBAL INTERESTS (TI)	
MD-TI-05	Identify the effects of decisions on vegetation, fish, wildlife, mineral, and water resources of importance to the Tribes, through consultation, and seek ways to lessen or avoid impacts.
MD-TI-06	Consult with Tribal governments on land management actions and allocations that could affect treaty rights.
MD-TI-07	Provide general information to staff and contractors regarding existing and historic uses of the PA by the Tribes, Federal government trust responsibilities, and the importance of Native American treaty rights in order to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of Tribal rights and interests related to public land management.
MD-TI-08	<p>The Tribes will continue to have access to the PA for hunting, fishing, and gathering and to practice their religions and cultures.</p> <p>Area and route allocations, with the exception of designated wilderness areas, do not apply to vehicles being used by members of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, and designated representatives and/or employees of the Tribes, to access traditional use areas of importance to the Tribes or to vehicles being used by members of the Tribes to exercise their tribally reserved treaty rights.</p>

CULTURAL RESOURCES (CR)	
Goals:	
GL-CR-01	Identify, preserve, and manage historic properties (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16) in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies to ensure that resources are available for uses by present and future generations.
Objectives:	
OB-CR-01	Protect historic properties while managing and providing for resource uses. Proactive measures, including environmental education, heightens public awareness.
OB-CR-02	Avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects on historic properties.
Management Direction:¹	
MD-CR-01	Manage all historic properties within the FRFO PA in accordance with NRHP. Historic properties will be evaluated for inclusion in the NRHP and for important values for preservation/education and outreach/scientific research.
MD-CR-02	Surface disturbance within 500 feet of known cave entrances, passages, or aspects of caves which contain significant cultural resources is prohibited.

¹ Management designations pertaining to the Oregon National Historic Trail are found in the Special Designations section of the Approved RMP.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES (PR)	
Goals:	
GL-PR-01	Manage paleontological resources in accordance with the Paleontological Resources Protection Act (PRPA) to reduce imminent threats to paleontological resources from natural or human-caused deterioration or reduce potential conflict with other resources.
GL-PR-02	Promote stewardship, conservation, and appreciation of paleontological resources through public education programs.
Objectives:	
OB-PR-01	Provide opportunities for scientific paleontological research.
OB-PR-02	Provide paleontological interpretation opportunities.
OB-PR-03	Maintain the opportunity for the casual collection of non-vertebrate fossils for personal use.
Management Direction:	
MD-PR-01	Identify areas that contain paleontologically significant sites and prohibit surface disturbing activities within these areas.
MD-PR-02	Prohibit surface-disturbing activities within paleontologically significant sites, including the Sugar Bowl, Glenns Ferry, and McGinnis Ranch.
MD-PR-03	Issue permits to qualified paleontologists for research upon request. Actively solicit research efforts to identify, monitor, and collect data on fossil resources.
MD-PR-04	Require an on-the-ground survey prior to surface disturbance or land tenure (sale parcels) adjustments. Monitor surface-disturbing activities as appropriate.
VEGETATION RESOURCES (VG)	
Goals:	
GL-VG-01	Manage vegetation communities to restore, maintain, or enhance vegetation composition consistent with ecological site potential.
GL-VG-02	Maintain, improve, enhance, or restore areas of ecological importance, soil health (e.g., chemical, physical, and biotic properties), priority plant species and habitats, and unique plant communities to facilitate the conservation, recovery, and maintenance of populations of native plant species.
GL-VG-03	Improve structure and function of annual-dominated and seeded communities.
Objectives:	
OB-VG-01	Manage vegetation to promote soil and watershed stability appropriate to soil type.

VEGETATION RESOURCES (VG)	
OB-VG-02	Restoration priority will be based on need and potential for success.
OB-VG-03	Expand sage-steppe vegetation (i.e., increase patch size; protect and enhance migration/movement corridors; improve forb, perennial native grass, and riparian conditions; and convert exotic annual grasslands to perennial natives).
OB-VG-04	Limit spread and establishment of noxious weed and new invasive species.
OB-VG-05	Establish desired plant community objectives for upland and riparian areas for the planning area through individual site-specific activity and implementation planning and as updated ecological site inventory data become available. All activity and implementation plans shall incorporate desired plant community objectives.
Management Direction:	
MD-VG-01	Prioritize new noxious weed infestations/occurrences, invasive plants dispersal corridors, and important special status species (SSS) habitats (e.g., ACECs, Type 1 special status plants (SSP) pollinator habitat) for weed treatment.
MD-VG-02	Implement noxious weed and invasive species control using integrated pest management decisions per national guidance and local weed management plans for Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, affected counties, and adjoining private landowners.
MD-VG-03	Implement vegetation rehabilitation or manipulation projects (not limited to chemical, mechanical, biological, and/or seeding treatments) to 1) maintain or enhance the desired vegetation community structure consistent with ecological site potential unless projects are designed to achieve fuels management objectives; or 2) improve ecological health of areas dominated by annual grasses to manage for a longer fire return interval consistent with ecological site potential.
MD-VG-04	Prioritize and implement restoration to emphasize and augment: 1) vegetation community maintenance and recovery in habitat areas; 2) timber production and forest fire prevention in commercial logging areas; and 3) forage production in areas used for livestock grazing. Emphasize the conservation of intact landscapes to reduce the need for active restoration.
MD-VG-05	Use vegetation (native and/or nonnative) based on probability of success for restoration and rehabilitation activities. Non-native species and cultivars that are considered transitional or noninvasive may be used to achieve site stabilization, fuel breaks, or invasive plant control. In LEPA habitat, potentially invasive species such as intermediate wheatgrass and prostrate kochia will not be used within 1.5 miles of Element Occurrences (EOs).
MD-VG-06	Incorporate BMPs as appropriate into project design when planning restoration and rehabilitation activities (Appendix C).
MD-VG-07	Identify and establish seed harvest areas for reliable sources of locally adapted seed to be used in rehabilitation and restoration activities.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (SSS)	
Goals:	
GL-SSS-01	Maintain, restore, or enhance special status species habitats and sagebrush ecosystems in coordination and consultation with USFWS, local, state, and other federal agencies to provide for their long-term sustainability.
GL-SSS-02	Maintain and/or improve the abundance, distribution, and connectivity of Greater Sage-grouse habitat by conserving, enhancing, and restoring sagebrush vegetation by reducing, eliminating, or minimizing threats using the guidelines and methods in the Greater Sage-grouse Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment (ARMPA) (USDOI BLM 2015a&b) or similar successor guidance.
GL-SSS-03	Conserve, enhance, and restore sagebrush ecosystems in an effort to maintain and/or increase the abundance and distribution of special status species in cooperation with conservation partners.
Objectives:	
OB-SSS-01	Where appropriate, establish ecological reference sites (approximately 40-160 acres) for long-term monitoring of LEPA habitat.
OB-SSS-02	Manage small mammal habitat to maintain species abundance and prey availability for raptors and other wildlife.
OB-SSS-03	Work with partners on outreach programs. Implement conservation strategies for BLM special status species consistent with recovery plans, cooperative agreements, memorandums of understanding, and other conservation partnerships.
Designations:	
DE-SSS-01	Incorporate Greater Sage-grouse Habitat Management Areas as designated in each Conservation Area in Idaho through the 2015 ARMPA, or similar successor plan/guidance (USDOI BLM 2015a&b): PHMA, IHMA and GHMA. There are no PHMAs designated in the PA. Lands designated as IHMA and GHMA will continue to be managed to maintain population and habitat objectives. Management decisions from the 2015 ARMPA or similar successor plan/guidance, applicable to the FRFO PA are incorporated by reference. These decisions will be incorporated as appropriate in the development of project proposals.
Allocations:	
AL-SSS-01	Designated critical habitat for threatened and endangered species are LUA avoidance areas to avoid detrimental impacts to the species.
AL-SSS-02	Allow surface disturbing activities (i.e., mineral material disposals, ROWs) within SSP, Types 2-4, habitat, though not within areas of known populations. SSP EOs are open to geothermal fluid mineral leasing with a CSU stipulation.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (SSS)	
Management Direction: <i>All Special Status Species</i>	
MD-SSS-01	Identify and map habitats and migration corridors of special status species in coordination with the IDFG. Use these areas to minimize or eliminate impacts to special status species during site-specific project implementation and travel management planning.
MD-SSS-02	Incorporate management direction and design features into site-specific project planning to address concerns and to minimize and/or eliminate impacts to special status species.
Management Direction: <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i>	
MD-SSS-03	Maintain and enhance habitat consistent with the USFWS Recovery Plan for the Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel (USFWS 2003) or subsequent revisions of this recovery plan.
MD-SSS-04	Implement the USFWS Upper Snake Recovery Unit Implementation Plan for bull trout within the primary core areas (USFWS 2015).
Management Direction: <i>Bats</i>	
MD-SSS-05	Coordinate with IDFG when developing management of caves, portions of caves, or abandoned mines containing bat habitat (e.g., hibernacula, nurseries, etc.).
Management Direction: <i>Sensitive Wildlife Species</i>	
MD-SSS-06	Site and schedule surface disturbances and disruptions to reduce impacts on special status species. Spatial and temporal buffers described in Appendix E will be applied as fluid mineral leasing stipulations for the special status species listed (Appendix G).
MD-SSS-07	Re-establish native trees and shrubs (e.g., cottonwood, willow) consistent with ecological site potential in riparian wildlife habitats.
Management Direction: <i>Greater Sage-grouse</i>	
MD-SSS-08	Incorporate Greater Sage-grouse Seasonal Habitat Objectives or similar successor guidance (USDOI BLM 2015a&b), into the design of projects or activities in Greater Sage-grouse habitat, as appropriate, based on site conditions and ecological potential to maintain forage, cover, and lek security.
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot Peppergrass - Vegetation</i>	
MD-SSS-09	Incorporate appropriate conservation measures for LEPA or recovery plans into project design and implementation within LEPA habitat.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (SSS)	
MD-SSS-10	Ensure that ongoing and new Federal actions support or do not preclude species conservation in LEPA habitat.
MD-SSS-11	Where appropriate, require LEPA habitat rehabilitation if damage occurs.
MD-SSS-12	Establish program-specific management decisions to conserve LEPA and its habitat.
MD-SSS-13	Incorporate management actions in USFWS recovery plans or equivalent cooperating agency policies into program-specific management plans.
MD-SSS-14	Restore wildlife habitat while minimizing impacts to LEPA habitat.
MD-SSS-15	Promote diversity, richness, and health of native plant communities to support pollinators and habitat for LEPA.
MD-SSS-16	Coordinate with adjacent non-federal landowners within or near LEPA habitats to further the conservation of the species, including spraying herbicide in a manner that minimizes effects to LEPA and sharing information about the life history, threats, and conservation needs of the species.
MD-SSS-17	Facilitate LEPA recovery through continued engagement with the Service and other partners by participating on the LEPA Technical Team and contributing to recovery planning and implementation efforts.
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot peppergrass - Livestock</i>	
MD-SSS-18	Manage livestock grazing and trailing to conserve suitable habitat conditions for LEPA while meeting or making significant progress towards meeting rangeland health standards and guidelines (S&Gs).
MD-SSS-19	Apply Annual Grazing Adaptive Management (Appendix D, Figure 1), to adjust livestock use as appropriate.
MD-SSS-20	Place supplements at least 1/2 mile from EOs. Place supplements so that livestock are drawn away from the EO and avoid trailing through the EO in route to the supplement or a water source. Management requirements will be adjusted to maintain an appropriate distance between supplements and existing EOs to avoid impacts.
MD-SSS-21	To avoid trampling impacts, no new domestic horse AUMs will be authorized in pastures containing EOs.
MD-SSS-22	Conduct pre-season range readiness checks for soil moisture conditions in allotments with LEPA occupied habitat.
MD-SSS-23	Conduct post-use monitoring for trampling in slick spots within LEPA EOs.
MD-SSS-24	Provide adequate rest from livestock use in treated areas.
MD-SSS-25	Manage range improvements to maintain LEPA habitat while meeting or making significant progress towards meeting rangeland health S&Gs.
MD-SSS-26	Place new water troughs at least 1 mile from EOs. Deviations from this standard may be developed on a case-by-case basis through collaboration with the USFWS. Place new water troughs so that cattle are drawn away from the EO and avoid trailing through an EO in route to a water source.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (SSS)	
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot peppergrass - Recreation</i>	
MD-SSS-27	Manage existing recreation and visitor facilities to promote conservation of special status species habitat.
MD-SSS-28	Manage dispersed use sites to conserve habitat. This includes limiting disturbances to LEPA habitat resulting from human uses.
MD-SSS-29	Manage commercial recreation and noncommercial recreation permits to promote conservation of LEPA habitat.
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot peppergrass - Travel and Transportation Management</i>	
MD-SSS-30	Manage roads, OHV routes and areas, as well as non-motorized trails and the ground disturbance associated with these activities, to conserve LEPA habitat.
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot peppergrass - Fire</i>	
MD-SSS-31	Where possible, suppress fires to protect LEPA habitat
MD-SSS-32	Do not locate fire base camps, staging areas, and fueling areas within occupied LEPA habitat.
MD-SSS-33	Avoid fire use projects in LEPA habitat.
MD-SSS-34	Conduct fuels management projects for long-term benefits to LEPA and habitat.
MD-SSS-35	Design prescribed fire projects to conserve and enhance habitat.
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot peppergrass - Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</i>	
MD-SSS-36	Implement Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) activities to consider LEPA in and adjacent to LEPA habitat rehabilitation areas.
MD-SSS-37	Evaluate wildfires within habitat categories for LEPA for ESR treatments, regardless of size with an emphasis on retaining native plant resiliency including early seral native grasses, forbs, and biological soil crusts.
Management Direction: <i>Slickspot peppergrass - Lands and Minerals</i>	
MD-SSS-38	Where feasible and funding is available, acquire through land exchange or purchase private lands that contain habitat for LEPA.
MD-SSS-39	Retain occupied LEPA habitat in Federal ownership unless such a transfer will result in a net benefit to the species.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (SSS)	
MD-SSS-40	Require new or renewing permit or lease holders to establish at least 50 percent perennial cover after all ground disturbing activities unless ecological site conditions preclude that level of cover. If a native species component existed prior to the ground disturbance, then the native species component of the perennial cover should be restored.
MD-SSS-41	Promote conservation of LEPA habitat when issuing new land use permits or rights-of-way, approving plans of development for salable and leasable minerals, and approving plans of operation for locatable minerals.
Management Direction: <i>BLM Special Status Plants (Types 2-4)</i>	
MD-SSS-42	Promote diversity, richness, and health of plant communities to support pollinators and habitat for Type 2 SSP EOs.
MD-SSS-43	Apiary land use permits will avoid SSP EOs by 2 miles.
MD-SSS-44	Locate livestock concentrating activities (e.g., salting/ supplements and water developments) a minimum of 0.25- mile from Type 2 SSP EOs.

FISH AND WILDLIFE (FW)	
Goals:	
GL-FW-01	The distribution, abundance, and quality of fish and wildlife habitats will be maintained or improved to provide food, cover, and space for healthy populations of game and non-game species.
GL-FW-02	Improve fish and wildlife habitat connectivity and reduce fragmentation.
GL-FW-03	Maintain long-term sustainability of fish and wildlife populations.
Objectives:	
OB-FW-01	Maintain or improve native plant communities consistent with vegetation goals and objectives to provide habitat for fish and wildlife.
OB-FW-02	Maintain terrestrial and avian migratory or movement corridors to reduce habitat fragmentation.
OB-FW-03	Maintain or improve big game winter habitat.
OB-FW-04	Maintain habitat to support healthy, sustainable bighorn sheep populations.
OB-FW-05	Manage riparian habitat to promote native riparian vegetation and to retain wetlands, springs, and seeps.
OB-FW-06	Where opportunities are identified, restore habitat connectivity in fish-bearing streams except in areas where non-native fish exist below a passage barrier.
Management Direction:	
MD-FW-01	Design projects in big game winter range to minimize disturbance.

FISH AND WILDLIFE (FW)	
MD-FW-02	Restore or enhance wildlife habitat. Prioritize projects that support IDFG wildlife management plans and meet wildlife population objectives.
MD-FW-03	Coordinate with IDFG to identify and map habitats and corridors of big game species. Consider these areas to reduce impacts to big game species during site-specific project implementation and travel management planning.
MD-FW-04	Consider shorebird and waterfowl habitat when designing projects involving wetland habitat, including seasonally flooded and perennially flooded wetlands, and open-water habitat, including reservoirs.
MD-FW-05	Manage springs, reservoirs, and riparian areas to provide water for livestock and other agricultural uses and to support riparian and wetland habitat.
MD-FW-06	Manage riparian and wetland habitat to support implementation of IDFG wildlife management plans and population objectives.
MD-FW-07	Apply spatial and temporal buffers as appropriate in accordance with Appendix E. Apply spatial and temporal buffers described in Appendix E as fluid mineral leasing stipulations (Appendix G) for the wildlife species listed.
MD-FW-08	Reduce risk of disease transmission between domestic sheep and goats and bighorn sheep through implementation of separation BMPs as identified in the Idaho Bighorn Sheep Management Plan (IDFG 2010), or similar successor plans/guidance, in coordination with Idaho Department of Fish and Game.
MD-FW-09	Avoid surface disturbing activities in blocks of shrub habitats that will result in habitat fragmentation unless short term activities will result in long-term maintenance or protection of habitats.

AQUATIC RESOURCES (AR)	
Goals:	
GL-AR-01	Upland and riparian conditions will support water quality consistent with the State of Idaho's water quality standards.
Objectives:	
OB-AR-01	Achieve, maintain, or make progress towards maintaining riparian and wetland Proper Functioning Condition.
OB-AR-02	Manage vegetation to conserve wetlands, springs, and seeps.
OB-AR-03	Limit establishment and spread of invasive species.
Management Direction:	
MD-AR-01	Incorporate the Aquatic Riparian Management Strategy (ARMS) (Appendix F) in the design and implementation of projects involving streams and wetlands.

AQUATIC RESOURCES (AR)	
MD-AR-02	Adjust management in areas with streams and springs that are not achieving PFC in order to achieve or make progress towards achieving PFC. Prioritize by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fish-bearing streams with special status species (e.g., redband and bull trout) 2. 303(d)(Impaired Waters List of the Clean Water Act – Section 303) listed streams 3. Fish-bearing streams 4. Streams with perennial flows 5. Springs and associated wetland complexes \geq 0.5-acres 6. Naturally occurring ponds/lakes
MD-AR-03	Site development projects occurring in areas with streams, wetlands, seeps, and reservoirs to maintain riparian habitat quality.
MD-AR-04	When providing water for livestock and other agricultural uses, manage springs, reservoirs, and riparian areas to support riparian and wetland habitat.

WILD HORSES (WH)	
Goals:	
GL-WH-01	Manage wild horse populations at appropriate management level (AML) to achieve and maintain a healthy herd, a thriving, natural ecological balance, and multiple use relationship on public land.
Objectives:	
OB-WH-01	Manage wild horses and burros (WHB) to maintain herd health.
Management Direction:	
MD-WH-01	Maintain the West Crane Creek herd area (HA) at a level of zero horses
MD-WH-02	Manage and maintain the Four Mile herd management area (HMA) at 18,800 acres.
MD-WH-03	Maintain the Four Mile HMA at an AML level of 37 to 60 horses.
MD-WH-04	Use fertility control (e.g., porcine zona pellucidae (PZP), SpayVac, GonaCon, sterilization etc.) to slow population growth rates or gather excess wild horses to low AML when monitoring data supports that populations are projected to meet or exceed the upper AML or have exceeded AML (typically a 4-year gather cycle).
MD-WH-05	Manage the Four Mile HMA as a partially non-reproducing herd, utilizing a variety of tools, including but not limited to fertility control, gelding, spaying, or other sterilization methods. Implementation of any specific fertility control tools will be through a site-specific activity plan consistent with National program policy and guidance.

WILD HORSES (WH)	
MD-WH-06	Site new fencing in the Four Mile HMA to facilitate free roaming for wild horses and support multiple use.
MD-WH-07	Provide needed water for wild horses.
WILDFIRE ECOLOGY AND FUELS MANAGEMENT (WFF)	
Goals:	
GL-WFF-01	Manage wildland fuel loads to protect human life and property from wildfire.
GL-WFF-02	Safely and effectively reduce the size and intensity of wildfires to protect human communities and their values, as well as wildlife habitats, plant communities, and tribal and cultural resources that would be damaged by wildfire.
GL-WFF-03	Restore natural fire regimes and frequencies to the landscape and utilize wildland fire and vegetation treatments (mechanical, chemical, biological, i.e., grazing, and prescribed fire) to meet multiple-use resource objectives, including returning fire to its natural role in the ecosystem.
Objectives:	
OB-WFF-01	Use education and community awareness campaigns to raise awareness of wildfire risk to help prevent wildfire.
OB-WFF-02	Reduce hazardous fuel loads that: 1) increase fire risk to life and property in wildland urban interface (WUI) areas; or 2) threaten resource values.
OB-WFF-03	Manage fuels consistent with fire regimes and return intervals based on ecological site potential.
OB-WFF-04	Implement fuels treatments to limit the spread, size, and intensity of wildland fire.
OB-WFF-05	Manage wildfires to minimize loss of sagebrush and protect Greater Sage-grouse habitat.
OB-WFF-06	Connect natural and man-made fuel breaks in fire-prone areas to protect existing natural vegetative communities and restored areas.
OB-WFF-07	Coordinate with the public, counties, and interagency cooperators and stakeholders to strengthen coordination of all fire management activities. Encourage the creation of fire-wise communities.
Management Direction: <i>Fuels Management</i>	
MD-WFF-01	Use a variety of tools and methodologies (prescribed fire, livestock grazing, biological, mechanical, and/or chemical treatments) to meet fuels objectives.
MD-WFF-02	Site fuels treatments strategically on the landscape to reduce the potential start and spread of unwanted wildfires and provide anchor points or control lines for the containment of wildfires to prevent fire from spreading into intact native ecosystems and successfully rehabilitated areas.

WILDFIRE ECOLOGY AND FUELS MANAGEMENT (WFF)	
MD-WFF-03	Design, locate, and maintain fuel breaks to limit or reduce wildfire rates and spread in the highest fire risk areas that will provide the greatest benefit to suppression support activities.
MD-WFF-04	<p>Consider using new ROWs or existing ROWs (during renewal) for use as fuel breaks if they meet one or more of the fuel break criteria below and where they effectively contribute to existing fuel break and suppression strategies.</p> <p>Fuels management zone — new ROW fuel break criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linear feature • Adjacent to the wildland-urban interface • Adjacent to high value natural resources • Protects existing native vegetation patches or islands • Access provided through existing roads and trails • Connects existing man-made and naturally existing fuel breaks (e.g., rocky ridges or water features) • Adjacent to historic ignition sources (e.g., railroads, highways, powerlines) • Logical anchor points for fire suppression purposes
MD-WFF-05	In allotments where invasive annual grasses are common and may represent a dangerous fuel load in some years; grazing permits will be renewed with the dual purpose of maintaining or improving ecological health and managing for a longer fire return interval. To that end, base AUMs will be permitted according to available perennial forage compatible with achieving land health objectives. Additional invasive annual AUMs will be available on the permit to be activated, in years when invasive annuals are abundant, upon approval from the authorized officer. The season of use for invasive annual AUMs could vary from the terms and conditions for the base AUMs so long as provisions are in place to prevent damage to perennial vegetation. See AL-LG-01 and Map 2 (Appendix A) for where and how those AUMs may be available.
Management Direction: <i>Wildfire Suppression</i>	
MD-WFF-06	Wildfire management priorities: The protection of human life, including firefighters, is the single, overriding priority. Protecting human communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources will be prioritized according to the values to be protected, human health and safety, and costs.
MD-WFF-07	Prioritize special status species habitats and intact native sage-steppe as the highest natural resource priority after priorities outlined in MD-WFF-06.
MD-WFF-08	Use non-surface-disturbing techniques in WSAs, ACECs, and special status plant species habitats wherever possible to meet suppression goals.
MD-WFF-09	Utilize a full range of fire management strategies and tactics within acceptable risk levels to achieve resource

WILDFIRE ECOLOGY AND FUELS MANAGEMENT (WFF)	
	objectives.
MD-WFF-10	Prescribed fire could be used in low-elevation shrub and grassland communities as a site preparation tool before vegetation restoration or to reduce weed buildup along linear features such as fence lines. Prescribed fire could be used in upper elevation shrub communities and aspen stands, when necessary to meeting objectives.
MD-WFF-11	Fuel breaks are not expected to meet rangeland health standards, but instead serve as 'brown-strips' designed to protect adjacent rangelands from fire. When practical, brown-strips could be converted to living 'green-strip' fuel breaks.

AIR QUALITY (AQ)	
Goals:	
GL-AQ-01	BLM-authorized actions will meet applicable local, state, and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) under the Clean Air Act (CAA), as amended, and Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) regulations.
Objectives:	
OB-AQ-01	Maintain the quality of the planning area's air resources by ensuring that management activities and authorized uses are conducted to avoid exceeding air quality thresholds.
Management Direction:	
MD-AQ-01	Coordinate all prescribed burning with state and local air quality agencies to ensure that local air quality is not significantly impacted by BLM activities.
MD-AQ-02	Conduct planned activities in accordance with the Idaho State Implementation Plan of the CAA.
MD-AQ-03	Emissions from point and non-point sources will be limited by requiring and implementing mitigation measures and/or Standard Operating Procedures (Appendix C).

VISUAL RESOURCES (VR)	
Goals:	
GL-VR-01	Maintain or improve overall scenic qualities and visual values of characteristic landscapes in conjunction with other resource values and multiple uses.

VISUAL RESOURCES (VR)	
Objectives:	
OB-VR-01	Manage visual resources according to established guidelines for visual resource management (VRM) classes.
Management Allocation:	
AL-VR-01	VRM Class Acres (Appendix A, Map 3): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class I: 23,270 acres • Class II: 164,900 acres • Class III: 511,880 acres • Class IV: 83,110 acres
FORESTRY AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT (FOR)	
Goals:	
GL-FOR-01	Forest and woodland vegetation communities are healthy and productive, providing functioning watershed, ecological habitat, and economic values.
Objectives:	
OB-FOR-01	Commercial forest lands will be managed for a combination of forest health, reduction of fire risk associated with fuel loads, and timber productivity.
OB-FOR-02	Enhance economic opportunities from forestry or woodland management activities.
Management Direction:	
MD-FOR-01	Develop cooperative relationships with adjacent landowners to facilitate effective forest management.
MD-FOR-02	Prioritize for treatment and/or harvest forested areas that provide merchantable timber or other forest products and improve forest health or reduce fuel hazards.
MD-FOR-03	Make wood products (fuelwood, posts, poles, house logs, timber, etc.) generated from vegetation treatment activities available for use by the public.
MD-FOR-04	Follow appropriate best management practices (Appendix C) to limit impacts to riparian areas, sensitive species, and other resource values.
MD-FOR-05	Retain adequate coarse, woody debris in forested areas to provide habitat for ground dwelling animals and nutrient recycling without creating hazardous fuel loads leading to increased wildfire risk.

FORESTRY AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT (FOR)	
MD-FOR-06	Maintain snag trees where they exist in timbered areas to provide habitat for cavity nesting birds and other snag-dependent species.
MD-FOR-07	Construct forest access roads as needed. If not needed for future management, rehabilitate constructed roads to make them impassable to motorized traffic. If needed more than 10 years hence, constructed roads could be scarified, seeded, and closed (gate or earthen barricade) to motorized traffic.
MD-FOR-08	Utilize a variety of cutting practices for treatment or harvest (i.e., thinning, prescribed burning, pre-commercial thinning, clearcutting, etc.). Limit clearcutting to 20 contiguous acres. Clearcutting can exceed 20 contiguous acres to address: 1) widespread disease (generally dwarf mistletoe) or insect infested (generally bark beetles or defoliators); or 2) where fire-killed timber can be salvaged. The extent of clearcutting in expanded areas will be defined and evaluated through project specific NEPA analysis.
MD-FOR-09	Reforestation of logged forest stands will meet BMPs for the State of Idaho.
MD-FOR-10	Determine reforestation of forest stands killed by wildfire through the fire-specific Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Plan/Report with emphasis on recovering diverse and healthy forest stands.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING (LG)	
Goals:	
GL-LG-01	Provide for livestock grazing opportunities while meeting or making significant progress towards Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health.
Objectives:	
OB-LG-01	Implement strategies for grazing systems, weed management, and vegetative restoration to meet Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health.
OB-LG-02	In coordination with IDFG, use best management practices as identified in the Idaho Bighorn Sheep Management Plan (IDFG 2010), or similar successor plan/guidance, to reduce risk of disease transmission between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep.
OB-LG-03	Utilize livestock grazing management to meet resource objectives such as reducing fuel loads and decreasing fire frequency.
OB-LG-04	Use Idaho Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in designing and implementing livestock grazing systems and management.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING (LG)	
Allocations:	
AL-LG-01	<p>Livestock grazing will be available across 783,160 acres in the PA (Appendix A, Map 4).</p> <p>Available AUMs throughout the PA: 106,168</p> <p>Up to 9,635 additional AUMs may be activated in pastures dominated by invasive annual grasses (Appendix A, Map 2) to maintain or improve ecological health and manage for a longer fire return interval (see MD-WFF-05).</p>
Management Direction:	
MD-LG-01	Consider a variety of factors when making livestock forage allocation adjustments, including but not limited to 1) forage production, 2) annual grass prevalence; 3) trend data, and 4) other land ownerships within the pasture and/or allotment.
MD-LG-02	Design and implement range and vegetation improvement projects to meet or make significant progress toward meeting Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health in cooperation, consultation, and coordination with the grazing permittees and the interested public.
MD-LG-03	Evaluate the placement and need of existing livestock management range improvement infrastructure with respect to grazing and resource management objectives. Consider removal of projects that are not needed for effective livestock or resource management. Consider relocation of range improvements to meet resource objectives.
MD-LG-04	Site-specific analysis will be completed where maintenance or expansion of existing range improvement projects requires ground disturbance beyond the footprint of the improvement.
MD-LG-05	Evaluate post-fire grazing management and objectives on a case-by-case basis. Work cooperatively with permittees to implement post-fire management changes to meet resource objectives. In developing objectives consider land ownership; stabilization and rehabilitation activities; pre-fire vegetation conditions (e.g., shrubs, perennial grasses, annual grasses) and establishment post-fire. Utilize appropriate livestock management to address objectives (e.g., grazing use to address annual grass growth and establishment; modified livestock movement/rotations, reduced livestock use, temporary livestock closure, or temporary fencing, etc.).
MD-LG-06	Use a broad range of approaches (e.g., duration of use, AUMs, distribution of livestock, season of use) through grazing authorizations and permit renewals to maintain and enhance perennial plant abundance and diversity and to reduce productivity of invasive annual grasses.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING (LG)	
MD-LG-07	<p>Implement best management practices to reduce potential disease transmission between domestic sheep and bighorn sheep in bighorn sheep Population Management Units (PMUs) consistent with the Idaho Bighorn Sheep Management Plan (IDFG 2010), or similar successor plans/guidance.</p> <p>Consider change in kind of livestock from sheep to cattle in areas where best management practices for reducing risk of disease transmission are not effective (or are not likely to be effective) and where domestic sheep continue to pose an unacceptable risk to maintenance of the affected bighorn sheep population, based on risk analyses and coordination with the State of Idaho.</p>
MD-LG-08	<p>Coordinate with domestic sheep permittees and the State of Idaho to determine alternate trailing routes where best management practices to reduce risk of disease transmission are not effective (or not likely to be effective) and where domestic sheep continue to pose an unacceptable risk to maintenance of the affected bighorn sheep population, based on risk analyses and coordination with IDFG in bighorn sheep Population Management Units (PMUs) consistent with the Idaho Bighorn Sheep Management Plan (IDFG 2010), or similar successor plans/guidance.</p>
MD-LG-09	<p>Incorporate BMPs (required design features (RDFs) when in Greater Sage-grouse (GRSG) habitat) into Terms and Conditions for crossing permits to limit resource conflicts and/or disturbance when trailing livestock across BLM-administered lands. Work with permittees in locating over-nighting, watering, and bedding locations to minimize impacts.</p>
MD-LG-10	<p>Consider establishing Reserve Common Allotments (RCA) as lands are acquired, by agreement(s) with the permittee(s), or as permits are cancelled (permits will not be cancelled for the purpose of establishing an RCA). Consider utilizing permits currently in non-use for the temporary purpose of promoting rangeland resource protection (43 CFR 4130.2(g)(1) and (h)).</p>
MD-LG-11	<p>Place salt/supplements and temporary water sources in coordination with permittee(s) to meet livestock management and resource management objectives.</p>
MD-LG-12	<p>When fully processing a grazing permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a broad range of approaches (e.g., stocking levels, season of use, utilization levels) to achieve and meet objectives on rangelands dominated by perennial species. • Consider grazing on rangelands dominated by annual plants (canopy cover of perennial grass species is <10 percent) or exhibiting increased fire frequency to reduce standing forage and fuels.
MD-LG-13	<p>Following successful restoration activities, work with permittee(s) to adjust short term grazing management practices, if needed, to achieve long-term vegetation and resource objectives. If long-term grazing management modifications are warranted, consider evaluation of the allotment as described in MD-LG-12.</p>

LIVESTOCK GRAZING (LG)	
MD-LG-14	Allotment and pasture boundaries may be modified, in coordination with the permittee(s), to facilitate the use of permitted livestock grazing to achieve fuels reduction objectives. Modifications may include aggregating allotments into larger allotments and realigning pasture boundary fences to concentrate livestock use for fuels reduction.
MD-LG-15	Consider issuance of Temporary Non-Renewable (TNR) permits with the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TNR may be allowed in years where additional forage for livestock is temporarily available, as determined by utilization levels; • TNR must be consistent with the drought management guidelines; • TNR may not be allowed within the operation of the applicant if grazing use criteria are exceeded in any pasture in planning area controlled by the applicant; and • TNR must be consistent with other resource objectives.
MD-LG-16	Available livestock forage may change over the life of the RMP resulting from forage type conversions occurring in response to habitat restoration activities. Changes to AUMs in the future will be determined at the allotment scale based on monitoring through an evaluation of the allotment as described in MD-LG-12.
MD-LG-17	Adjust livestock grazing management through fully processed permits (MD-LG-12) when changes in grazing management are needed and appropriate (based on monitoring data, scientific analysis, rangeland health assessments, etc.). Adjustments in livestock grazing may include a variety of approaches including, but not limited to changes in the number of livestock, the kind of livestock, the season-of-use (timing and duration), or the grazing system utilized (such as rotation system).

RECREATION (REC)	
Goals:	
GL-REC-01	Manage recreational use to meet statutory requirements to ensure resource protection, ensure human health and safety, and reduce conflict, as well as achieve other program planning objectives.
GL-REC-02	The recreation program will provide diverse, quality recreation opportunities that add to the recreation participant's quality of life and contribute to local economies.
GL-REC-03	Environmental education and volunteer project opportunities will enhance stakeholder-BLM shared stewardship of public lands and increase public awareness and appreciation of natural and cultural resource values.

RECREATION (REC)	
GL-REC-04	Boise Front SRMA: Provide a high-quality system of trails for the enjoyment of Treasure Valley residents and visitors to the Boise Foothills while maintaining an open space environment to support public demand for open space, special status plant habitat, and big game winter range.
GL-REC-05	Payette River SRMA: Provide superior non-motorized whitewater rafting experiences and benefits to visitors to the Payette River.
GL-REC-06	Bennett Hills BCA: Facilitate the long-term maintenance of big game wildlife populations and promote public access to support wildlife-dependent recreation and hunting activities.
Objectives:	
OB-REC-01	Within the Boise Front SRMA, by the year 2035 and beyond, 80 percent of recreation assessment participants will indicate experiences and benefits mostly are realized (4 on scale of 1-5).
OB-REC-02	Within the Payette River SRMA, by the year 2035 and beyond, 80 percent of recreation assessment participants will indicate experiences and benefits mostly are realized (4 on scale of 1-5).
OB-REC-03	Within the Bennett Hills BCA, manage for primitive recreation in support of hunters and anglers and promote high quality wildlife-dependent recreation activities (e.g., trophy mule deer and upland bird hunting) to maintain and enhance wildlife habitats.
OB-REC-04	Within the Bennett Hills BCA, proposed activities will maintain or enhance the wildlife and access values of the area while also allowing for active management of authorized uses such as livestock grazing, forest management, minerals development, and rights-of-way, etc.
OB-REC-05	Oxbow/Brownlee ERMA will offer a variety of water and upland recreation opportunities in a relatively unchanged scenic setting.
Designations: Recreation Management Areas	
DE-REC-01	Designate two SRMAs totaling 26,870 acres (Appendix A, Map 5; Appendix H): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boise Front: 25,260 acres Payette River (500-meter buffer along river): 1,610 acres
DE-REC-02	Designate the following recreation management areas (Appendix A, Map 5; Appendix H): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bennett Hills BCA: 120,800 acres Oxbow/Brownlee ERMA: 36,820 acres
Allocations: Recreation Management Areas	
AL-REC-01	In the Boise Front SRMA, activities associated with land use authorizations and mineral extraction will conform to VRM Class II objectives. Exclude renewable energy projects within the Boise Front SRMA.

RECREATION (REC)	
AL-REC-02	Within the Oxbow/Brownlee ERMA, activities associated with land use authorizations and mineral material disposals will conform to VRM Class II and Class III objectives. The ERMA will be open to geothermal fluid mineral leasing subject to NSO restrictions within 0.5 miles of developed sites.
AL-REC-03	Manage the Bennett Hills BCA as VRM Class II.
AL-REC-04	Allow LUAs and salable mineral extraction within the Bennett Hills BCA, consistent with VRM Class II objectives and wildlife habitat timing restrictions in Appendix E.
AL-REC-05	Allow geothermal fluid mineral leasing within the Bennett Hills BCA consistent with other resource program stipulations (see Appendix A, Map 12).
AL-REC-06	Allow motorized use (including over-snow vehicles) on existing routes only until a travel management plan is completed, with the exception that game retrieval could occur beyond 300 feet of existing or designated routes.
AL-REC-07	Developed recreation sites and the Clay Peak Cycle Park are open to geothermal fluid mineral leasing subject to NSO.
Management Direction: <i>Recreation Management Areas</i>	
MD-REC-01	The Payette River SRMA will be managed in accordance with WSR guidance (see Special Designations section).
MD-REC-02	Manage the Oregon National Historic Trail in accordance with National Historic Trail Guidance (see Special Designations section) and remove the Oregon National Historic Trail SRMA designation.
MD-REC-03	Manage recreation setting characteristics (remoteness, naturalness, contacts, group size, evidence of use, access, visitor services and management controls) for the Bennett Hills BCA as back country and the recreation setting characteristic of facilities will be managed as primitive in support of hunting, camping, and wildlife viewing as described by the BLM Planning for Recreation and Visitor Services Handbook (USDOI BLM 2014a), or successor guidance.

RECREATION (REC)	
Management Direction: <i>Lands Not Designated as Recreation Management Areas</i>	
MD-REC-04	The following recreation sites are managed as Day Use only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonneville Point • North Fork Payette • Confluence • Upper Deer Creek • Lower Deer Creek • Chief Parrish • Beehive Bend • Parnell Beach (Porter Creek)
MD-REC-05	Camping within 50 feet of rockshelters and/or caves is prohibited.
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT (TTM)	
Goals:	
GL-TTM-01	Utilize a comprehensive approach to travel planning and management to sustain and enhance recreational opportunities and experiences, visitor access and safety, and resource conservation and use.
GL-TTM-02	Provide legal access to and through BLM-administered lands.
GL-TTM-03	Reduce impacts to wildlife habitat, conserve special status species, and maintain or restore natural plant communities through travel management planning.
GL-TTM-04	Manage the travel and transportation network to contain or reduce noxious weeds.
GL-TTM-05	Manage the travel and transportation network to maintain existing opportunities and pursue new opportunities for mineral resources.
GL-TTM-06	Maintain access for fire management.
GL-TTM-07	Provide access to a wide range of recreational opportunities across the PA.
Objectives:	
OB-TTM-01	In consideration of the various resources, resource uses, and special designations, all BLM-administered lands within the Four Rivers Field Office will be allocated as off-highway vehicle (OHV) open, OHV limited, or OHV closed in accordance with procedures outlined in 43 CFR 8342.1.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT (TTM)	
OB-TTM-02	Allow access to BLM-managed lands, while protecting sensitive natural resources, providing for visitor safety, and minimizing user conflicts.
OB-TTM-03	Establish a long-term, sustainable, multimodal travel network and transportation system of areas, roads, primitive roads, trails, and other transportation linear features that address the need for public, authorized, and administrative access to and across BLM-managed lands and related waters.
OB-TTM-04	Support the agency's mission and land use planning goals and objectives to manage travel and transportation to provide for resource management, public and administrative access, transportation needs, and to promote sustainable landscapes for future generations.
OB-TTM-05	During subsequent implementation-level travel and transportation management planning, design and designate a transportation system to minimize adverse effects on sensitive resources. Locate areas and trails to minimize impacts to sensitive resources using the designation criteria found in 43 CFR 8342.1. Focus on developing a transportation system that provides for public access to public land resources and connectivity to other places and communities, while providing for experiences for public land visitors which complement management goals and objectives for public land resources in the PA. Individual route designations will occur during subsequent travel management planning efforts.
OB-TTM-06	All travel management designations shall be based on the protection of the resources of the public lands, the promotion of the safety of all the users of the public lands, and the minimization of conflicts among various uses of the public lands.
OB-TTM-07	The travel management designations will be in accordance but not limited to the following criteria (Appendix I): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability. • Areas and 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. • Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between OHV use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors. • Areas and trails shall not be located in officially designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that OHV use in such locations will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT (TTM)	
Designations:	
DE-TTM-01	<p>The PA is divided into six Travel Management Areas (TMAs) (Appendix A, Map 6) to facilitate travel and transportation planning at a more local level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boise River TMA: 95,387 acres • Indian Valley TMA: 226,600 acres • Snake River TMA: 56,980 acres • Weiser TMA: 72,521 acres • Bennett Hills TMA: 292,773 acres • River Forks TMA: 34,364 acres <p>Criteria for completing travel management plans are found in Appendix I.</p>
Allocations:	
AL-TTM-01	<p>OHV Area Allocations (Appendix A, Map 7):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open: 2,940 acres • Limited: 750,100 acres • Closed: 30,120 acres
AL-TTM-02	OHV travel is limited to existing roads, primitive roads, and trails until such time as travel management planning is complete and routes are either designated or closed.
Management Direction:	
MD-TTM-01	OHV travel may be permitted off-road for administrative purposes and permitted used (as described in the site-specific permit) subject to authorized officer approval and resource specific limitations (such as LEPA habitat conservation).
MD-TTM-02	The Danskin Peak Lookout access road is seasonally limited to motorized vehicles due to wet road conditions generally from January 2-April 10.
MD-TTM-03	Highland Valley and Shaw Mountain Roads will be closed from December 15-April 1; Upper 8th Street in Boise will be closed to motorized full-size vehicles and OHVs from December 1-May 15 to prevent road damage during wet conditions.

LANDS AND REALTY (LR)	
Goals:	
GL-LR-01	Approve land tenure adjustments, classifications, withdrawals, easements, purchased interest, acquisitions, and land use authorizations when consistent with other resource uses and values.
Objectives:	
OB-LR-01	Approve projects that develop renewable energy resources, transportation routes, utility corridors, transmission lines, communication sites, and other uses, consistent with resource objectives.
OB-LR-02	Improve BLM's ability to manage the land base and resource values and help meet resource objectives through land tenure adjustments.
Allocations	
AL-LR-01	The PA is closed to agricultural entry, including Desert Land Act and Carey Act applications.
AL-LR-02	Land use authorization (LUA) allocations (including rights-of-way (ROW) and leases) (Appendix A, Map 9): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General LUA Avoidance: 629,790 acres • General LUA Exclusion: 23,270 acres
AL-LR-03	Existing designated utility corridors, including Section 368 Corridors, will remain open in all sage-grouse habitat management areas.
AL-LR-04	LUA ROW allocations for Solar Development (Appendix A, Map 10): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Energy Avoidance: 469,500 acres • Solar Energy Exclusion: 180,520 acres
AL-LR-04	LUA ROW allocations for Wind Development (Appendix A, Map 11): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind Energy Avoidance: 352,960 acres • Wind Energy Exclusion: 297,050 acres
AL-LR-05	Only lands identified as available for sale in Appendix A, Map 8, are available for sale under section 203 of FLPMA. Evaluate land sales under section 203 of FLPMA on a case-by-case basis. Only authorize land sales when such sale would serve an important public objective of allowing the BLM to fulfill priorities and when such action would enhance public resource values, improve management capabilities, or reduce the potential for land use conflict.
AL-LR-06	Only lands identified in Appendix A, Map 8, are available for exchange under section 206 of FLPMA or conveyance, lease, or land grant under other applicable authorities. Evaluate proposals for such actions on a case-by-case basis. Only authorize land exchanges, conveyances, leases, or land grants when such action would enhance public resource values, improve management capabilities, or reduce the potential for land use conflict.
Management Direction: <i>Land Tenure</i>	

LANDS AND REALTY (LR)	
MD-LR-01	Manage acquired lands or interest in lands consistent with the purpose for which they were acquired, or if no specific purposes were identified, consistent with adjacent or nearby public lands.
MD-LR-02	Consider and prioritize acquisitions and exchanges that will enhance public access or improve management of wildlife and riparian habitat areas by consolidating public land.
MD-LR-03	Prioritize the retention of all BLM-administered lands consistent with FLPMA 102 (a)(1). Retain all BLM-administered lands shown in Appendix A, Map 8, as identified for retention. Only lands identified in Appendix A, Map 8, as available for sale or exchange are available for sale under section 203 of FLPMA consistent with AL-LR-05; or exchange under section 206 of FLPMA or conveyance, lease, or land grant under other applicable authorities consistent with AL-LR-06 (Appendix J).
Management Direction: <i>Withdrawals</i>	
MD-LR-04	Recommend withdrawals that no longer serve their established purpose to be modified, revoked, or relinquished. Prior to modification, revocation, or relinquishment, withdrawn lands will be reviewed to determine if other resource values or uses require withdrawal protection. If warranted, a withdrawal will be pursued as appropriate.
MD-LR-05	Upon relinquishment, revocation, or modification of a withdrawal, manage opened lands consistent with adjacent or nearby public lands and in accordance with resource goals and objectives.
Management Direction: <i>Utility Corridors</i>	
MD-LR-06	Locate proposed utility transportation developments (i.e., electric transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines) within designated corridors whenever feasible.

MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)	
LEASABLE MINERALS	
Goals:	
GL-MR-01	Opportunities for exploration and development of leasable minerals will be compatible with other resource uses while protecting the natural environment.
Objectives:	
OB-MR-01	Provide opportunities for exploration and development of fluid and solid leasable minerals.
OB-MR-02	Minerals on lands acquired by other federal agencies shall only be leased with the concurrence of the surface management agency.
Allocations:	

MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)	
AL-MR-01	<p>Geothermal Leasable Fluid Mineral Allocations (Appendix A, Map 12)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open with Standard Lease Terms: 490,434 acres (389,573 split estate; 100,861 surface) • Open with CSU/TLS: 525,976 acres • Open with NSO: 133,490 acres • Closed: 23,270 acres
AL-MR-02	<p>Oil and Gas Leasable Fluid Mineral Allocations (Appendix A, Maps 14 and 15)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open with Standard Lease Terms: 78,934 acres (49,760 split estate; 29,174 surface) • Open with CSU/TLS: 73,216 acres • Open with NSO: 348 acres • Closed: 1,020,672 acres (339,813 split estate; 680,859 surface)
AL-MR-03	All lands open to oil and gas leasing will also be open to geophysical exploration, subject to appropriate resource surveys, surface protection measures, and adequate bonding.
AL-MR-04	Public land use restrictions for solid leasable minerals (i.e., open to leasing subject to the standard lease terms and conditions, closed, and open with seasonal restrictions) are the same as described under fluid leasable minerals, except that lands managed with a NSO stipulation for fluid leasables will be managed as closed to solid leasables.
AL-MR-05	All critical groundwater areas, as determined by Idaho Department of Water Resources are open to geothermal fluid mineral leasing, subject to NSO constraints.
Management Direction: <i>Federal Fluid Mineral Estate (Oil, gas, and geothermal)</i>	
MD-MR-01	Priority will be given to oil and gas expressions of interest, leasing and development within areas of high oil and gas potential (Appendix A, Map 13). The implementation of these priorities will be subject to valid existing rights and any applicable law or regulation, including, but not limited to, 30 United States Code (USC) 226(p) and 43 CFR 3162.3-1(h).

MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)	
MD-MR-02	<p>The lessee's right to use leased lands for fluid mineral exploration and development is subject to stipulations attached to the lease; restrictions deriving from specific, nondiscretionary statutes; and such reasonable measures needed to minimize impacts to other resources and resource users not addressed in the lease stipulations at the time operations are proposed. Fluid mineral lease stipulations may be modified or eliminated only if the BLM determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if proposed operations will not cause unacceptable impacts, using the exception, modification, or waiver criteria described in Appendix G.</p> <p>All mineral leases will include standard stipulations for the protection of the following resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Resources • Threatened, Endangered, and/or Candidate Species Habitat under the Endangered Species Act • Air Quality • Migratory Birds • Paleontological Resources <p>Site-specific stipulations shall be attached to leases for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slopes greater than 40 percent • Soils with a severe erosion hazard rating • Soils with limited reclamation potential • Lands within 500-feet of perennial streams, riparian areas, wetlands, or springs • 100-year floodplains
MD-MR-03	Evaluate parcels nominated for lease prior to lease offering to determine if development is feasible. Parcels will not be offered for lease if buffers and restrictions preclude development in the leasing area.
MD-MR-04	Complete a Master Development Plan, consistent with plan development guide on leases where a producing field is proposed to be developed.
MD-MR-05	Geothermal leases: Seasonal restrictions for surface disturbing or disruptive activities will be applied in accordance with the seasonal timing stipulations in Appendix E.
MD-MR-06	All fluid mineral leases (i.e., oil, gas and geothermal) will include standard stipulations for groundwater resources.
Management Direction: <i>Fluid Mineral Split Estate (Oil, gas, and geothermal)</i>	

MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)	
MD-MR-07	BLM administered public lands mineral estate – non-federal surface owner: Where the United States owns the mineral estate and the surface is in non-federal ownership, apply the same stipulations, conditions of approval (COAs), and/or conservation measures if the mineral estate is developed on BLM-administered lands in that management area, to the maximum extent permissible under existing authorities, in coordination with the landowner.
MD-MR-08	BLM administered public lands surface – non-federal mineral estate owner: Where the United States owns the surface and the mineral estate is in non-federal ownership, apply appropriate surface use COAs, stipulations through LUA grants or other surface management instruments, to the maximum extent permissible under existing authorities, in coordination with the mineral estate owner/lessee.
Management Direction: <i>Solid Leasable Minerals</i>	
MD-MR-09	Plan decisions that avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts from federally authorized mineral activity will apply to split-estate lands. If split-estate lands are nominated for leasing, the surface owner will be notified of the impending lease sale.
LOCATABLE MINERALS (LOC)	
Goals:	
GL-LOC-01	Provide opportunities for exploration and development of locatable minerals while protecting other resource values.
Objectives:	
OB-LOC-01	Provide opportunities for exploration and development of locatable mineral deposits.
Management Direction:	
MD-LOC-01	Public lands will be open to mineral location, subject to restrictions imposed to protect other resource values. There will be opportunity for development of locatable mineral resources by keeping public land open to mineral location and development, except in selected administrative and/or developed recreational sites. Apply reasonable and appropriate conservation measures to locatable minerals, to the extent consistent with applicable law to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of public lands when a Plan of Operations is submitted in accordance with 43 CFR 3809.411(d)(2).
SALABLE MINERALS (SAL)	
Goals:	
GL-SAL-01	Provide opportunities for exploration and development of mineral material sites while protecting other resource values.
Objectives:	

MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)	
OB-SAL-01	Sand, gravel, cinders, clay, bentonite, fill material, and building stone will be available to meet the infrastructure and maintenance needs of local and State governments, industry, and individuals, as the demand warrants, while protecting other resource values.
Allocations:	
AL-SAL-01	New mineral material disposals will not be allowed on 48,100 acres (WSAs and Oregon NHT; Appendix A, Map 16). Areas open to mineral material disposals will be subject to appropriate timing and distance restrictions in accordance with Appendix E.
Management Direction:	
MD-SAL-01	Authorize mineral material extraction from compatible, active mineral sites, if adequate material is present. Open new mineral material sites as local demand increases if compatible with other resource uses and values. Reopen inactive sites as warranted if compatible with other resource uses and values.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND PUBLIC SAFETY (HMPS)	
Goals:	
GL-HMPS-01	Prioritize human health and safety. Environmental damage caused by hazardous materials or other hazards will be prevented or rehabilitated.
Objectives:	
OB-HMPS-01	The occurrence and severity of hazardous materials incidences on public land will be reduced to protect public health and safety and reduce the risk to the environment.
OB-HMPS-02	Public health and safety will be protected from hazards associated with abandoned mine lands, debris flows, and other physical safety hazards.
OB-HMPS-03	Public lands will continue to be inventoried for AML sites and potential hazards. Protect cultural and natural resources when remediating hazards.
Management Direction:	
MD-HMPS-01	Identify and mitigate illegal hazardous material disposal sites and hazardous materials spills in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations. Develop interagency agreements with local law enforcement agencies to facilitate the enforcement of illegal hazardous material disposal and hazardous material laws. Coordinate with local government agencies during hazardous material prevention and response activities.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND PUBLIC SAFETY (HMPS)	
MD-HMPS-02	Manage public lands in order to protect the public from safety and environmental hazards associated with abandoned mine lands (AMLs); and improve land health damaged by AMLs. Inventory AML sites for safety and environmental hazards and reduce or mitigate these hazards.
MD-HMPS-03	In the Long-billed Curlew ACEC, work with partners on outreach programs to prevent illegal shooting of wildlife.
MD-HMPS-04	Prohibit use of firearms within 0.25-miles of developed recreation sites, OHV open areas, and the Payette SRMA unless BLM issues a special recreation permit to allow their use.
MD-HMPS-05	The prohibition on the discharge of firearms of any kind does not prohibit the use of firearms within BLM-managed public lands for hunting in compliance with licensing, hunting seasons, weapon restrictions, and other State of Idaho legal requirements.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS AND NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NT)	
Goals:	
GL-NT-01	Manage areas with natural, historic, cultural, scenic, or recreational value that might otherwise be lost or irreparably damaged to protect those values. The Oregon National Historic Trail, Goodale's Cutoff, and Kelton Road (referred to as the Oregon NHT Management Corridor) will be managed to preserve and protect the historic, scenic, and recreational values associated with the trails.
Objectives:	
OB-NT-01	Protect, preserve, and provide opportunities to experience the historic, scenic, and recreational values of the Oregon NHT Management Corridor.
Designations:	
DE-NT-01	Manage the area 2 miles on either side of contributing segments as the Oregon NHT Management Corridor (137,700 acres BLM-administered lands) and manage 0.25 miles or to the visual horizon (whichever is narrower) on either side of contributing segments within the Management Corridor as the Oregon NHT Protective Zone (24,910 acres BLM-administered lands) (Appendix A, Map 17).
Allocations:	
AL-NT-01	Manage all segments of the Oregon NHT and Goodale's Cutoff (including contributing segments) as National Historic Trails. Manage Kelton Road (12 miles outside the Oregon NHT including 5 miles considered contributing segments) as if it were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS AND NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NT)	
AL-NT-02	Prohibit staging areas for recreational activities and events in the Oregon NHT Protective Zone.
AL-NT-03	Close the Oregon NHT Protective Zone to new salable mineral development (24,820 acres). Existing salable mineral developments could be renewed but spatial extent (footprint) will not be expanded.
AL-NT-04	The Oregon NHT Protective Zone will be open to fluid mineral leasing with an NSO stipulation. The Oregon NHT Management Corridor will be open to fluid mineral leasing subject to the following stipulation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and production activities shall be consistent with VRM management direction.
AL-NT-05	The Oregon NHT Protective Zone are solar and wind energy LUA exclusion zones (24,910 acres). The Oregon NHT Management Corridor is a wind energy LUA exclusion zone and solar energy LUA avoidance zone (137,700 acres). Solar energy LUA could be granted in the Oregon NHT Management Corridor consistent with MD-NT-04.
AL-NT-06	With the exception of exclosures, the Oregon NHT Protective Zone and Management Corridor is available to livestock grazing.
Management Direction:	
MD-NT-01	Coordinate management of current or future national or state byways and trails with the designating entity, when those byways and trails cross BLM-managed public lands.
MD-NT-02	Prohibit OHV use on the Weiser River National Recreation Trail (NRT) with the exception OHVs used for trail maintenance and repair.
Management Direction: Oregon National Historic Trail	
MD-NT-03	Update the BLM's 1984 Oregon Trail Management Plan (USDOI BLM, 1984b) and ensure consistency with the National Park Service's 1999 Oregon NHT Comprehensive Management and Use Plan. Until the 1984 plan is updated and unless otherwise directed in the RMP, continue to manage the Trail in accordance with the 1984 plan and BLM policy, and in cooperation with the National Park Service (NPS).
MD-NT-04	In the Oregon NHT Protective Zone and Management Corridor: 1) designated routes may follow or cross the Oregon NHT in areas where previous disturbance has occurred, after consultation with the SHPO; 2) where vehicle use is allowed within the Oregon NHT Management Corridor, travel will not degrade the trail or its setting; 3) modify or close routes that are degrading the trail setting; 4) minimize visual impacts from designated routes; 5) consider new routes that replace more visually intrusive routes.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS AND NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NT)	
MD-NT-05	Incorporate reasonable and appropriate design features and protective approaches consistent with applicable law to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the Oregon NHT Protective Zone. Design actions in the Management Corridor to avoid visual impacts to the Protective Zone.
MD-NT-06	<p>LUAs within the Oregon NHT Management Corridor are subject to the following restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New surface or overhead LUAs will co-locate with existing LUAs or disturbance corridors, as practicable. • Underground LUAs will be allowed with appropriate design features within the NHT Management Corridor and will bore under high-quality ruts in the NHT Protective Zone. • A new large-scale linear LUA with multi-jurisdictional impacts will be allowed where the alignment is constrained or determined by external factors that make avoidance impractical or infeasible. • Highly visible projects or projects out of scale with the surrounding area would be allowed consistent with VRM management <p>Additional mitigation and BMPs will be developed in response to site-specific proposals.</p>
MD-NT-07	Locate livestock supplements and temporary grazing infrastructure outside the Oregon NHT Protective Zone. Place new permanent grazing infrastructure (e.g., troughs, reservoirs, fences, holding facilities) outside the Oregon NHT Protective Zone unless designed to minimize trailing, trampling, and visual impacts to contributing features.
MD-NT-08	Surface-disturbing activities, the use of surface-disturbing equipment, such as bulldozers and road graders, or establishment of staging areas for fire or ESR activities within the Oregon NHT Protective Zone, are prohibited unless necessary to protect life or property in an emergency.
MD-NT-09	Prescribed fire will be considered in the Oregon NHT Management Corridor.
MD-NT-10	Use seeding techniques that minimize ground disturbance and avoid ground-disturbing vegetative treatments near trail remnants in the Oregon NHT Protective Zone (24,910 acres).

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS (WSR)	
Goals:	
GL-WSR-01	Manage river segments determined to be suitable for Congressional designation and inclusion in the National WSR System consistent with maintaining the free-flowing character and preserving or enhancing their outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs).
Objectives:	

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS (WSR)	
OB-WSR-01	Manage segments determined suitable to protect their ORVs until Congress either designates the segments or releases them from consideration.
Designations:	
DE-WSR-01	The following segments have been inventoried as eligible for inclusion in the National WSR system and have been identified with an associated tentative classification: South Fork of the Payette River (Middle Fork confluence to Banks) as recreational (8 miles); North Fork Payette River (Cascade Dam to USFS Boundary) as recreational (28 miles); Payette River (Banks to Horseshoe Bend) as recreational (15 miles); Snake River (King Hill and Three Island reaches to Hammett) as recreational (19 miles); West Fork King Hill Creek (headwaters to King Hill Creek) as wild (11 miles); King Hill Creek (WSA boundary in T3S, R11E, Sect 18 - Snake River) as wild (8 miles in WSA) and recreational (2 miles outside WSA) (Appendix A, Map 18).
DE-WSR-02	Designate WSR corridors to extend either the average distance of 0.25 mile from the high-water mark on each side of eligible segments (USDOI BLM 2012); or the distance to the nearest confined canyon rim, whichever is shorter.
Allocations:	
AL-WSR-01	Within Recreational WSR Corridors: Development of new salable mineral sites that do not impair ORVs will be limited to a maximum of 2 acres consistent with VRM guidance. Within Wild WSR Corridors: No salable mineral extraction is allowed.
AL-WSR-02	WSR Corridors are open to fluid mineral leasing with an NSO stipulation.
AL-WSR-03	WSR Corridors are available for livestock grazing except areas outside existing allotments adjacent to the Snake River.
Management Direction:	
MD-WSR-01	Manage eligible segments to maintain or enhance free-flowing conditions (i.e., no water impoundments, diversions, or hydroelectric facilities) and ORVs. Specific actions may be considered to resolve public safety or health risks (i.e., stream impoundments, channelization, and/or riprapping along BLM shorelines).

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS (WSR)	
MD-WSR-02	Conduct suitability studies and make suitability determinations on eligible river segments within the planning area, coordinate suitability studies with adjacent landowners and the State of Idaho. Protect or enhance the qualifying values of eligible river segments pending a subsequent suitability determination or designation decision by Congress. Their free-flowing condition cannot be modified, their ORVs and water quality are to be maintained or enhanced, and their tentative classification is to be maintained. Upon Congressional action regarding suitable segments, management would reflect one of the two potential outcomes: 1) designation as a WSR – management would continue to follow guidance for WSR segments described in this RMP; 2) release – management identified for WSR segments in this RMP would no longer apply and those segments would be managed according to non-WSR direction in the other sections of the RMP for adjacent lands.
MD-WSR-03	Construction of new permanent roads or trails that do not impair ORVs may be considered in WSR Corridors.
MD-WSR-04	Incorporate reasonable and appropriate design features and protective approaches consistent with applicable law to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of ORVs when developing plans of operation and development.
MD-WSR-05	Co-locate new LUAs within existing LUAs when possible or minimize impacts to ORVs when co-location is not possible.
MD-WSR-06	Consider use of prescribed fire if it supports natural processes, maintains, or enhances ORVs, and does not encourage invasive species.
MD-WSR-07	Minimize adverse impacts to ORVs when implementing fuels treatments. Fuel break treatments will not be permitted within segments recommended for designation as wild.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)	
Goals:	
GL-WSA-01	Manage WSAs under the non-impairment standard so that they remain suitable for designation as wilderness.
Allocations:	
MD-WSA-01	If released from further wilderness consideration by Congress, manage Box Creek WSA in coordination with the State of Idaho and manage King Hill Creek WSA as an area with OHV limited to designated roads and trails.
MD-WSA-02	The King Hill Creek and Box Creek WSAs are closed to motorized vehicle use.
MD-WSA-03	Existing routes/trails will be closed and/or rehabilitated.
MD-WSA-04	WSAs are closed to mineral material disposals.
MD-WSA-05	WSAs are closed to fluid mineral leasing.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)	
MD-WSA-06	With the exception of inholding access, LUAs are not allowed in the King Hill Creek and Box Creek WSAs. The WSAs are excluded from renewable energy development.
MD-WSA-07	The WSAs are available for livestock grazing.
Management Direction:	
MD-WSA-01	Manage each WSA in accordance with BLM Manual 6330 (USDOI BLM 1969), Management of Wilderness Study Areas until Congress acts to either designate them as Wilderness or releases them from further consideration.
MD-WSA-02	Where possible, remove unnecessary range improvement projects from the WSAs.
MD-WSA-03	Prescribed fire may be allowed within the King Hill Creek WSA only if necessary to prepare a site for vegetation restoration.
MD-WSA-04	Conduct restoration efforts and use appropriate methods where they are required to maintain or enhance wilderness values.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS (LWC)	
Goals:	
GL-LWC-01	Minimize and reduce impacts to areas with naturalness, opportunities for solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation.
Objectives:	
OB-LWC-01	Minimize and reduce impacts to lands with wilderness characteristics by maintaining naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation.
Allocations:	
AL-LWC-01	Designate OHV use in the Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River Area as Limited to existing routes. New routes may be designated in a future travel management plan.
AL-LWC-02	The Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River area is open to mineral material disposals with surface-disturbing activities less than 2 acres and located adjacent to existing or designated routes.
AL-LWC-03	The Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River area is open to fluid mineral leasing.
AL-LWC-04	Allow LUAs in the Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River area, with co-location with existing LUAs a primary consideration.
Management Direction:	

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS (LWC)	
MD-LWC-01	Manage the Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River area (7,940 acres) for existing values and multiple use.
MD-LWC-02	Where possible, remove unnecessary range improvement projects from the Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River area.
MD-LWC-03	Avoid use of ground disturbing techniques during fire suppression activities, other than hand-lines in the Sheep Mountain/Wildhorse River area unless use will prevent more significant resource loss or damage.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)	
Goals:	
GL-ACEC-01	Use a variety of management approaches (including special designation) in areas with relevant and important resource values (e.g., natural, historic, cultural, scenic, or recreational), that might otherwise be lost or irreparably damaged, to maintain values. Consider or maintain special designation if required to protect identified values (Appendix A, Map 19).
Objectives Common to All Alternatives:	
OB-ACEC-01	ACECs will be managed to maintain, enhance, and protect relevant and important resource values.
Management Direction Common to All ACECs:	
MD-ACEC-01	Manage lands acquired adjacent to or surrounded by existing ACECs and which meet relevance and importance criteria in accordance with management guidance for the ACEC.
MD-ACEC-02	Treat for grasshopper or Mormon cricket control within ACECs as necessary and when consistent with relevant and important values.
Management Direction: <i>Bannister Basin</i>	
MD-BB-ACEC-01	Manage the Bannister Basin area according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Designation: <i>Boise Front ACEC</i>	
DE-BF-ACEC-01	Retain the Boise Front ACEC designation (15,080 acres).
Allocations: <i>Boise Front ACEC</i>	

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)	
AL-BF-ACEC-03	The Boise Front ACEC is an exclusion area for renewable energy (solar installations, wind turbines/towers) or precursors such as meteorological towers.
AL-BF-ACEC-04	The Boise Front ACEC is open to fluid mineral leasing subject to NSO stipulations.
AL-BF-ACEC-05	Allow livestock grazing within the Boise Front ACEC.
Management Direction: <i>Boise Front ACEC</i>	
MD-BF-ACEC-01	Overnight camping and campfires in the Boise Front ACEC are prohibited.
Designation: <i>Buckwheat Flats ACEC</i>	
MD-BW-ACEC-01	Remove the Buckwheat Flats Research Natural Area (RNA) designation and manage according to special status plant direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Allocations: <i>Buckwheat Flats ACEC</i>	
MD-BW-ACEC-02	Close the Buckwheat Flats area to OHV use (195 acres).
Designation: <i>Cartwright Canyon ACEC</i>	
MD-CC-ACEC-01	Remove Cartwright Canyon ACEC designation and manage according to special status species direction.
Management Direction: <i>Cherry Gulch ACEC</i>	
MD-CG-ACEC-01	Manage the Cherry Gulch area according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Designation: <i>Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC</i>	
DE-CST-ACEC-01	Retain and expand the Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC (18,660 acres).
Allocations: <i>Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC</i>	
AL-CST-ACEC-01	Limit OHV use to existing or designated routes.
AL-CST-ACEC-02	The Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC is open to fluid mineral leasing with timing stipulations for CSTG as described in Appendix E.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)	
AL-CST-ACEC-03	The Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC is open to locatable mineral entry.
AL-CST-ACEC-04	Exclude renewable energy projects from the Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC.
AL-CST-ACEC-05	The Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC is available for livestock grazing.
Management Direction: <i>Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC</i>	
MD-CST-ACEC-01	Construct new permanent roads based on travel management planning outcomes to reduce impacts to relevant and important values.
MD-CST-ACEC-02	Allow mineral material disposals on sites a maximum of 2 acres, subject to timing and distance restrictions as described in Appendix E.
MD-CST-ACEC-03	Allow ROW construction and maintenance activities subject to timing and distance restrictions as described in Appendix E. Authorize new above-ground facilities if co-located with existing above-ground facilities or are more than 0.5 miles from key breeding and brood-rearing habitats and equipped with anti-raptor perching devices.
MD-CST-ACEC-04	Manage livestock grazing to maintain habitat conditions for Columbian Sharp-tailed grouse.
Designation: <i>Goodrich Creek ACEC</i>	
DE-GC-ACEC-01	Remove the Goodrich Creek RNA designation and manage according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Designation: <i>Hulls Gulch ACEC</i>	
DE-HG-ACEC-01	Incorporate the Hulls Gulch ACEC into the Boise Front ACEC.
Designation: <i>King Hill Creek ACEC</i>	
DE-KH-ACEC-01	Remove the King Hill Creek ACEC designation.
Designation: <i>Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC</i>	
DE-LC-ACEC-01	Retain but reduce the size of the Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC to 26,810 acres.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)	
Allocations: <i>Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC</i>	
AL-LC-ACEC-01	Limit OHV use to existing or designated routes.
AL-LC-ACEC-02	Open the Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC to mineral material disposals subject to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude surface-disturbing activities within 0.25 miles of key nesting and brood-rearing habitat. • Close to use (except for emergencies) from March 1- June 30. • Limit new sites to no more than 5 acres.
AL-LC-ACEC-03	The Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC is open to fluid mineral leasing. Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities will not be allowed from March 1- June 30.
Management Direction: <i>Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC</i>	
MD-LC-ACEC-01	Limited road construction is allowed in accordance with site-specific stipulations intended to minimize impacts to long-billed curlew habitat.
MD-LC-ACEC-02	Construction and maintenance activities are prohibited during nesting and brood-rearing periods (March 1- June 30). The Long-billed Curlew Habitat ACEC is closed to solar and wind energy ROWs.
MD-LC-ACEC-03	Manage livestock grazing to improve curlew habitat (where vegetation is too tall/dense).
Designation: <i>Lost Basin Grassland ACEC</i>	
DE-LB-ACEC-01	Remove the Lost Basin Grassland RNA designation and manage according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Allocations: <i>Lost Basin Grassland ACEC</i>	
AL-LB-ACEC-01	Limit OHV use to existing or designated routes.
Management Direction: <i>Mountain Home ACEC</i>	
MD-MH-ACEC-01	Manage the Mountain Home area according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Designation: <i>Rebecca Sandhill ACEC</i>	
DE-RS-ACEC-01	Remove the Rebecca Sandhill RNA designation and manage according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS - AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)	
Allocations: <i>Rebecca Sandhill ACEC</i>	
AL-RS-ACEC-01	Limit OHV use to existing or designated routes.
Designation: <i>Sand-capped Knob ACEC</i>	
DE-SK-ACEC-01	Remove the Sand-capped Knob ACEC designation and manage according to special status species direction.
Designation: <i>Sand Hollow ACEC</i>	
DE-SH-ACEC-01	Remove the Sand Hollow ACEC designation and manage according to special status species direction.
Management Direction: <i>Sheep Creek ACEC</i>	
MD-SC-ACEC-01	Manage the Sheep Creek area according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Designation: <i>Summer Creek ACEC</i>	
DE-SuC-ACEC-01	Remove the Summer Creek RNA designation and manage according to special status species direction. Do not designate as an ACEC.
Designation: <i>Willow Creek ACEC</i>	
DE-WC-ACEC-01	Remove the Willow Creek ACEC designation and manage according to special status species direction.
Designation: <i>Woods Gulch ACEC</i>	
DE-WG-ACEC-01	Remove the Woods Gulch ACEC designation and manage according to special status species direction.

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Glossary

Abandoned Mine Lands (AML): An abandoned hard rock mine on or affecting public lands administered by the BLM, at which exploration, development, mining, reclamation, maintenance, and inspection of facilities and equipment, and other operations ceased as of January 1, 1981 (the effective date of BLMs Surface Management regulations codified at 43 CFR 3809) with no evidence demonstrating that the miner intends to resume mining.

Acquired Public Lands: Lands and/or any part of the mineral estate obtained by the United States through direct purchase, donation, or condemnation. Also, lands and minerals obtained by the United States through the Weeks Act. In rare instances, lands and minerals conveyed to the United States through exchange take on the status of Acquired Lands where the lands conveyed from the United States are Acquired Lands.

Active Use: The current authorized grazing in an allotment, including conservation, may constitute a portion or all of permitted use, not including temporary non-use or suspended use.

Activity Plan: A detailed and specific plan for managing a single resource program or plan element undertaken, as needed, to implement the more general resource management plan (RMP) decisions. BLM prepares activity plans for specific areas to reach specific resource management objectives within stated timeframes.

Administrative Access: Motorized route use is limited to completing BLM work or specific work completed by a permittee associated with an approved BLM right-of-way or permit.

Affect: to bring about a change. As a verb, affect is most commonly used in the sense "to influence" or "impact." The adjective "affected" means acted upon or influenced.

Affected Environment: Natural, physical, and human-related environment that is sensitive to changes due to proposed actions.

Air Quality Rating: See Class I Air Quality Rating and Class II Air Quality Rating.

Allocation: The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the planning area, based on desired conditions. Describes whether specific uses of the public lands (such as livestock grazing and energy development) are allowed, restricted or prohibited.

Allotment: An area of land designated and managed for livestock grazing (43 CFR 4100.0-5).

Alternatives: Other options to the proposed action by which the BLM can meet its purpose and need. The BLM is directed by the NEPA to “study, develop, and describe appropriate alternatives to recommended courses of action in any proposal which involves unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources...” (NEPA Sec 102(2)E)

Amendment: The process for considering or making changes in the terms, conditions, and decisions of approved RMPs or MFPs. Usually only one or two issues are considered that involve only a portion of the planning area.

Animal Unit Month (AUM): The amount of forage needed to sustain one cow, five sheep, or five goats for a month.

Appropriate Management Level (AML): The number of adult horses (expressed as a range with an upper and lower limit) to be managed within an HMA. Forage for wild horses (AUMs) is allocated based on the AML upper limit. (BLM Handbook H-4700-1)

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Designated areas on public lands where special management attention is needed to protect, and prevent irreparable damage to important historical, cultural, and scenic values, fish, or wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes; or to protect human life and safety from natural hazards. (BLM Manual 1613)

Assessment: The estimation or judgement of the status of ecosystem structures, functions, or processes, within a specified geographic area (preferably a watershed or a group of contiguous watersheds) at a specific time. An assessment is conducted by gathering, synthesizing, and interpreting information, from observations or data from inventories and monitoring. An assessment characterizes the status of resource conditions so that the status can be evaluated (see definition of evaluation) relative to land health standards. An assessment sets the stage for an evaluation. An assessment is not a decision.

Attainment Area: Areas for which compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards has been demonstrated.

Authorized Use: This is an activity (i.e., resource use) occurring on the public lands that is either explicitly or implicitly recognized and legalized by law or regulation. This term may refer to those activities occurring on the public lands for which the BLM or other appropriate authority (e.g., Congress for RS 2477 rights-of-way or FERC for major interstate rights-of-way) has issued a formal authorization document, such as a livestock grazing lease or permit, a right-of-way grant, a coal lease, or an oil and gas permit to drill. Formally authorized uses can involve commercial and noncommercial activity, facility placement, or event. These formally authorized uses are often limited by area or time. Unless constrained or bound by statute, regulation, or an approved land use plan decision, legal activities involving public enjoyment and use of the public lands for such activities as hiking, camping, and hunting require no formal BLM.

Avoidance Area: These terms usually address mitigation of some resource use. Paraphrasing the CEQ Regulations (40 CFR, Part 1508.20), avoidance means to circumvent or bypass an impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action. Therefore, avoidance does not necessarily prohibit a proposed activity, but it may require relocating or totally redesigning an action to eliminate any potential impacts resulting from it.

Back Country Byway: A component of the national scenic byway system which focuses primarily on corridors along back country roads which have high scenic, historic, archeological, or other public interest values. The road may vary from a single-track bike trail to a low speed, paved road that traverses back country areas. (BLM Handbook H-8357-1, B 2)

Backcountry Conservation Area (BCA): BLM-managed lands in a specific planning area which promote public access to support wildlife-dependent recreation and hunting opportunities and facilitate the long-term maintenance of big game wildlife populations. These areas are primarily contiguous and intact. Management of BCAs includes activities such as active forest and rangeland management, grazing, motorized access on designated routes and other areas for game retrieval, fluid and solids leasable minerals, and other actions consistent with the BLM's multiple use, sustained yield mission.

Best Management Practices (BMPs): A suite of techniques that guide, or may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. BMPs are often developed in conjunction with land use plans, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the land use plan specifies that they are mandatory. They may be updated or modified without a plan amendment if they are not mandatory.

Big Game: Indigenous, ungulate (hoofed) wildlife species that are hunted, such as elk, deer, bison, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn antelope.

Biological Assessment: The gathering and evaluation of information on proposed endangered and threatened species and critical habitat and proposed critical habitat. Required when a management action potentially conflicts with endangered or threatened species, the biological assessment is the way federal agencies enter into formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and describe a proposed action and the consequences to the species the action would affect.

Biological Vegetation Treatment: Methods of vegetation treatment that employ living organisms to selectively suppress, inhibit, or control herbaceous and woody vegetation. Examples of such methods include insects; pathogens; and grazing by cattle, sheep, or goats.

BLM Sensitive Species: Plant or animal species eligible for federal listed, federal candidate, state listed, state candidate (plant) status, or approved for this category by the BLM State Director.

Burn Plan: A plan required for every fire application ignited by management. Plans are documents prepared by qualified personnel, approved by the agency administrator, and include criteria for the conditions under which the fire will be conducted (a prescription).

Candidate Species: Species not protected under the Endangered Species Act but being considered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion on the list of federally threatened and endangered species.

Canopy: The cover or leaves of branches formed by the tops or crowns of plants as viewed from above the cover measured by the vertical projection downward of the extent of the cover and expressed as a percentage of the ground so covered.

Carey Act: Authorizes transfer of up to one million acres of public desert land to states for settling, irrigating, and cultivating purposes.

Chemical Vegetation Treatments: The applying of chemicals to control unwanted vegetation.

Class I Air Quality Rating: Under the Clean Air Act, the rating given areas of the country selected to receive the most stringent degree of air quality protection. These areas include international parks, national wilderness areas (larger than 5,000 acres), national memorial parks (larger than 5,000 acres), and national parks (larger than 6,000 acres), which were in existence on August 7, 1977. Class I areas afford the highest protection to air quality by restricting the level of further degradation allowed.

Class II Air Quality Rating: Under the Clean Air Act, the rating given areas of the country selected for somewhat less stringent protection from air pollution damage than Class I areas, except in specified cases. These are attainment areas that do not meet Class I or Class III designations.

Class III Air Quality Rating: This class is assigned to attainment areas to allow maximum industrial growth while maintaining compliance with NAAQS.

Closed: Denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses; refer to specific definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs. For example, 43 CFR 8340.0-5 sets forth the specific meaning of “closed” as it relates to off-highway vehicle use, and 43 CFR 8364 defines “closed” as it relates to closure and restriction orders.

Coarse Woody Debris: Fallen dead trees and the remains of large branches on the ground or in

waterways.

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): The official, legal tabulation or regulations directing federal government activities.

Collaboration: A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands.

Collocate: Installing new linear improvements in or on existing linear improvements.

Condition of Approval: Requirement under which an application for a permit to drill or sundry notice is approved.

Conformance: Means that a proposed action shall be specifically provided for in a land use plan or, if not specifically mentioned, shall be clearly consistent with the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved plan or amendment. The BLM policy requires that a statement of land use plan conformance be included in a NEPA compliance document.

Conservation Agreement: A formal signed agreement between the USFWS or NOAA-Fisheries and other parties that implements specific actions, activities, or programs designed to eliminate or reduce threats to, or otherwise improve the status of a species. Conservation agreements can be developed at a state, regional, or national level and generally include multiple agencies at both the state and Federal level, as well as Tribes. Depending on the types of commitments the BLM makes in a conservation agreement and the level of signatory authority, plan revisions or amendments may be required prior to signing the conservation agreement, or subsequently in order to implement the conservation agreement.

Conservation Area: Area determined to be necessary to monitor population objectives to evaluate the disturbance density and adaptive regulatory triggers and engage adaptive management responses. Conservation areas may contain PHMA, IHMA, and GHMA.

Conservation Strategy: A strategy outlining current activities or threats that are contributing to the decline of a species, along with the actions or strategies needed to reverse or eliminate such a decline or threats. Conservation strategies are generally developed for species of plants and animals that are designated as BLM sensitive species or that have been determined by the USFWS or NOAA-Fisheries to be Federal candidates under the Endangered Species Act.

Consistency: Means that the proposed land use plan does not conflict with officially approved plans, programs, and policies of Tribes, other Federal agencies, and state and local governments (to the extent practical with Federal law, regulation, and policy).

Cooperating Agency: Assists the lead Federal agency in developing an EA or EIS. The CEQ regulations implementing NEPA define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA (40 CFR 1501.6). Any Federal, state, local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency.

Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ): An Executive Office advisory council established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for review of federal program effects on the environment. The council conducts environmental studies and advises the President on environmental matters.

Cover: (1) Percentage of material, other than bare ground, covering the land surface. It may include live and standing dead vegetation, microbiotic crust, litter, cobble, gravel, stones and

bedrock. Ground cover, plus bare ground, totals 100 percent; (2) plants or objects used by wild animals for nesting, rearing of young, escape from predators, or protection from harmful environmental conditions.

Cultural Resource: A location of human activity, occupation, or use identifiable through field inventory, historical documentation, or oral evidence. Cultural resources include archaeological and historical sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, works of art, architecture, and natural features that were important in past human events. They may consist of physical remains or areas where significant human events occurred, even though evidence of the events no longer remains. And they may include definite locations of traditional, cultural, or religious importance to specified social or cultural groups.

Cultural Site: A physical location of past human activities or events, more commonly referred to as an archaeological site or a historic property. Such sites vary greatly in size and range from the location of a single cultural resource object to a cluster of cultural resource structures with associated objects and features.

Cumulative Effect: "...the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such actions" (40 CFR 1508.7 and 1508.25).

Decision Area: Lands and federal mineral estate within the planning area that are administered by the BLM.

Decision Maker: The BLM official who has been delegated authority to approve an action and is responsible for issuing a decision to implement a proposed action. Synonyms include authorized official, authorized officer, responsible official, and responsible manager.

Desert Land Act: Encourages and promotes the economic development of the arid and semiarid public lands of the Western United States. Through the Act, individuals may apply for a desert-land entry to reclaim, irrigate, and cultivate arid and semiarid public lands.

Design Features: Measures or procedures incorporated into the proposed action or an alternative, including measures or procedures which could reduce or avoid adverse impacts. Because these features are built into the proposed action or an alternative, design features are not considered mitigation.

Designated Corridor: BLM's preferred route for placing rights-of-way for utilities (i.e., pipelines and powerlines) and transportation (i.e., highways and railroads).

Designated Roads and Trails: Specific roads and trails identified by the BLM where some type of motorized/nonmotorized use is appropriate and allowed, either seasonally or year-long (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Designations: Identify geographic areas of public land where management is directed toward one or more priority resource values or uses. They include two types: 1) Administrative designations are identified in BLM or Department of Interior program specific policies or regulations and are established through the BLM's land use planning process to achieve RMP objectives; and 2) Non-discretionary designations are those that can only be established by the President, Congress or the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to specific legal authority.

Desired Outcomes: A type of land use plan decision expressed as a goal or objective.

Developed Recreation Site: Site that includes constructed recreation-related amenities such as parking, restrooms, trails, launch sites, and/or picnic tables.

Dispersed Recreation: Recreation that does not require developed sites or facilities.

Disruptive Activities: Those activities that disrupt or alter wildlife actions at key times or in important areas (feeding, breeding, nesting, herd movement, winter habitat). Disruptive activities are those which can result in reductions of energy reserves, health, reproductive success, or population.

Disturbance Corridor: Physical or behavioral disturbances caused by linear features such as roads or powerlines. Direct disturbances (e.g., habitat loss, alteration) are associated with the development footprints. Indirect disturbances include behavioral avoidance or abandonment by wildlife or increased wildfires, invasives, or noxious weeds that degrade habitat conditions resulting in fragmentation.

Diversity (biodiversity): The full range of variability within and among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they occur. Biological diversity encompasses ecosystem or community diversity, species diversity, and genetic diversity.

Easement: The right to use land in a certain way granted by a landowner to a second party.

Ecological Site: A distinctive kind of land with specific physical characteristics that differs from other lands in its ability to produce a distinctive kind and amount of vegetation.

Effect: Impact to the human environment brought about by an agent of change, or action. Effects analysis predicts the degree to which the environment will be affected by an action. The CEQ uses both the terms “effect” and “impact” in the NEPA regulations; these terms are synonymous in the NEPA context. As a noun, other synonyms include consequence, result and outcome. Effects can be both beneficial and detrimental, and may be direct, indirect, or cumulative.

Element Occurrence: Special Status Plant occurrences. “An area of land and/or water in which a species or natural community is, or was, present” [NatureServe 2002].

Eligible River Segment: Qualification of a river for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System by determining that it is free flowing and, with its adjacent land area, has at least one river-related value considered to be outstandingly remarkable.

Endangered Species: Any animal or plant species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range as designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act. Also see Threatened Species.

Exclosure: An area fenced to exclude animals.

Exclusion Area: An area on the public lands where a certain activity is prohibited to protect other resources on the site. The term is frequently used in reference to lands and realty actions and proposals, such as rights-of-way, but it is not unique to lands and realty activities. This restriction is functionally analogous to “no surface occupancy,” which is used by the oil and gas program and is applied as an absolute condition to those affected activities. A less restrictive analogous term is “avoidance area”.

Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA): ERMAs recognize existing recreation use, demand, or Recreation and Visitor Services program investments and are managed to sustain principal recreation activities and associated qualities and conditions, commensurate with other resource and resource uses.

Federal Action: A BLM proposal is a Federal action when: (1) the proposal is at a stage in development where we have a goal and are actively preparing to make a decision on one or more alternative means of accomplishing that goal (40 CFR 1508.23); (2) the proposed action and effects are subject to BLM control and responsibility (40 CFR 1508.18); (3) the action has effects that can be meaningfully evaluated (40 CFR 1508.23); and (4) effects of the proposed action are related to the natural and physical environment, and the relationship of people with that environment (40 CFR 1508.8; 40 CFR 1508.14).

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA): Public Law 94-579, which gives the BLM legal authority to establish public land policy, to establish guidelines for administering such policy, and to provide for management, protection, development, and enhancement of the public land.

Federal Register: The official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents. The *Federal Register* is published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Fire Management Plan: A plan that defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires and documents the fire management program in the approved land use plan.

Fire Suppression: All the work of extinguishing or confining a fire, beginning with its discovery.

Fluid Minerals: Oil, gas, coal bed natural gas, and geothermal resources.

Forage: All browse and herbage that is available and acceptable to grazing animals or that may be harvested for feed.

Forb: An herbaceous plant that is not a grass, sedge, or rush.

Free Flowing: River segments that are flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping or other modification of the waterway that would encourage future construction of such structures. Used to determine eligibility of river segments in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Fuel Loading: The amount of fuel present expressed by weight of fuel per unit area.

Fugitive Dust: Dust particles that are introduced into the air through certain actions such as soil cultivation or vehicles crossing open fields or driving on dirt roads or trails.

Functional-at Risk: (1) Condition in which vegetation and soil are susceptible to losing their ability to sustain naturally functioning biotic communities. Human activities, past or present, may increase the risks. (2) Uplands or riparian-wetland areas that are properly functioning, but a soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation and lessens their ability to sustain natural biotic communities. Uplands are particularly at risk if their soils are susceptible to degradation. Human activities, past or present, may increase the risks.

Fundamentals of Rangeland Health: Overarching principles of rangeland health, listed at 43 CFR § 4180.1, which establish the Department's policy of managing for healthy rangelands (60 Federal Register at 9954). State or regional standards and guidelines must provide for conformance with the Fundamentals of Rangeland Health (43 CFR § 4180.2(b)).

General Habitat Management Areas (GHMA): Encompass habitat that is outside of PHMA or IHMA. GHMA contain approximately 10 percent of the occupied leks that are also of relatively low male attendance compared to leks in PHMA or IHMA. GHMA are generally characterized by

lower quality disturbed or patchy habitat of low lek connectivity.

Goal: A broad statement of a desired outcome; usually not quantifiable and may not have established timeframes for achievement.

Grazing Permit: A document that authorizes grazing use of the public lands under Section 3 of the Act. A grazing permit specifies grazing preference and the terms and conditions under which permittees make grazing use during the term of the permit.

Guidelines: Actions or management practices that may be used to achieve desired outcomes, sometimes expressed as best management practices. Guidelines may be identified during the land use planning process, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the plan specifies that they are mandatory. Guidelines for grazing administration must conform to 43 CFR 4180.2.

Habitat: An area that provides an animal or plant with adequate food, water, shelter, and living space.

Habitat Fragmentation: Process by which habitats are increasingly subdivided into smaller units resulting in their increased insularity and losses of total habitat area.

Hazardous Fuel: Excessive live or dead wildland fuel accumulations that increase the potential for uncharacteristically intense wildland fire and decrease the capability to protect life, property, and natural resources.

Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT): An all-encompassing term that includes hazardous substances; hazardous waste; hazardous chemical substances; toxic substances; pollutants and contaminants; and imminently hazardous chemical substances and mixtures that can pose an unreasonable risk to human health, safety, and property.

Herd Area (HA): A geographic area occupied by a wild horse herd and its habitat in 1971.

Herd Management Area (HMA): An area established for maintaining wild horse herds.

Historical Site: A location that was used or occupied after the arrival of Europeans in North America (ca. A.D. 1492). Such sites may consist of physical remains at archaeological sites or areas where significant human events occurred, even though evidence of the events no longer remains. They may have been used by people of either European or Native American descent.

Human Environment: As defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) the “human environment” shall be interpreted to include the natural and physical environment and the relationship of people with that environment. When economic or social effects and natural or physical environmental effects are interrelated, then the analysis must discuss all of these effects on the human environment (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1508.14).

Impact: see ‘effect’.

Implementation Action: An action that implements land use plan decisions.

Implementation Decisions: Decisions that take action to implement land use plan decisions; generally appealable to IBLA under 43 CFR 4.410.

Implementation Plan: An area or site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. Implementation plans include both activity plans and project plans (they are types of implementation plans).

Important Habitat Management Areas (IMHA): High value habitat and populations that provide a management buffer for and connect patches of PHMA and SFA. They are of generally

moderate to high conservation value habitat and populations and, in some conservation areas, include areas beyond those identified by the USFWS as necessary to maintain redundant, representative, and resilient populations. IMHA are typically next to PHMA and SFA but generally reflect somewhat lower GRSG population status or reduced habitat value due to disturbance, habitat fragmentation, or other factors. No important habitat management areas are designated within the southwestern Montana conservation area.

Important Wildlife Habitat: Area that supports wildlife during critical time periods such as breeding, nesting, brood-rearing, or winter.

Indicators: Components of a system whose characteristics (presence or absence, quantity, distribution) are used as an index of an attribute (e.g., rangeland health attribute) that are too difficult, inconvenient, or expensive to measure (Interagency Technical Reference 1734-8, 2000).

Indirect Effects: Effects that "...are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density, or growth rate, and related effects on water and air and other natural systems, including ecosystems" (40 CFR 1508.8(b)).

Interdisciplinary Team: Staff specialists representing identified skill and knowledge needs working together to resolve issues and provide recommendations to an authorized officer.

Intermittent Stream: A stream that generally flows during wet seasons but is dry during dry seasons.

Invasive Species (Invasives): Plant species that were either absent or present only in small amounts in undisturbed portions of a specific range site's original vegetation and invade following disturbance or continued overuse.

Issue: A point or matter of discussion, debate, or dispute about the potential environmental effects or impacts, of an action. Issues point to environmental effects and may drive the development of alternatives to the proposed action.

Jurisdiction by Law: Means another governmental entity (Federal, State, tribal, or local agency) has authority to approve, veto, or finance all or part of a proposal (40 CFR 1508.15). The CEQ guidance provides for establishing a cooperating agency relationship with such entities in development of a NEPA analysis document.

Key Habitats: Area occupied by a species that is essential to its conservation and requires special management considerations or protections.

Land Health: Degree to which the integrity of the soil and the ecological processes of ecosystems are sustained.

Land Use Authorization: A BLM land use authorization permits an applicant to use a specific piece of public land for a certain project. User-initiated proposals and applications generate the majority of requests for land use authorizations. The BLM receives inquiries and proposals from federal, state, and local governments, as well as from private individuals and companies interested in either acquiring access across or locating facilities on public land.

Land Use Plan: a set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act; an assimilation of land-use-plan level decisions developed through the planning

process outlined in 43 CFR part 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed. The term includes both Resource Management Plans and Management Framework Plans (H-1601-1, Glossary, page 4).

Leasable Minerals: Minerals whose extraction from federally managed land requires a lease and the payment of royalties. Leasable minerals include coal, oil and gas, oil shale and tar sands, potash, phosphate, sodium, and geothermal steam.

Lek: A traditional courtship display area attended by male GRSB in or next to sagebrush-dominated habitat. A lek is designated based on observing two or more male GRSB engaged in courtship displays during the breeding season.

Limited: Generally denotes that an area or roads and trails are available for a particular use or uses. Refer to specific program definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs. For example, 43 CFR 8340.0-5 defines the specific meaning of “limited” as it relates to off-highway vehicle use.

Locatable Minerals: Minerals that may be acquired under the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. They include hard rock, placer, industrial minerals, and uncommon varieties of rock found on public domain lands.

Long-term Impacts: Impacts that could occur for multiple years, an approximation of the time required to restore or reclaim an area following surface disturbance should be provided.

Management Direction: Identified to achieve attainment of desired outcomes (objectives), including program constraints, general management practices and support actions.

Management Unit: Geographic area with similar management objectives or considerations

Manual Vegetation Treatment: The use of hand operated power tools and hand tools to cut, clear or prune vegetation.

Mechanical Vegetation Treatments: The use of mechanical equipment to suppress, inhibit, or control herbaceous and woody vegetation. BLM uses wheeled tractors, crawler-type tractors, mowers, or specially designed vehicles with attached implements for such treatments.

Mitigation: Includes specific means, measures, or practices that could reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse impacts. Mitigation can include avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, minimizing the impact by limiting the degree of magnitude of the action and its implementation, rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitation, or restoring the affected environment, reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, and compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Monitoring: Regular collection of information to determine the effects of resource management and detect changing resource trends, needs, and conditions.

Motorized Trail: A designated route that allows for the use of small-wheel-based motorized vehicles such as all-terrain vehicles and motorcycles.

Multiple Use: A combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that considers long-term needs for renewable and nonrenewable resources including recreation, wildlife, rangeland, timber, minerals, and watershed protection, along with scenic, scientific, and cultural values.

National Historic Trail: One of the three categories of national trails defined in the National Trails

System Act of 1968 that can only be established by act of Congress and are administered by federal agencies, although part or all of their land base may be owned and managed by others. National historic trails are generally more than 100 miles long and follow as closely as possible and practicable the original trails or routes of travel of national historic significance. Their purpose is identifying and protecting the historic route and its remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment.

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 Recreation Trail: One of the three categories of national trails defined in the National Trails System Act of 1968 that can only be established by act of Congress and are administered by federal agencies, although part or all of their land base may be owned and managed by others. National Recreation Trails are existing regional and local trails recognized by either the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior upon application.

National Register of Historic Places: The official list, established by the National Historic Preservation Act, of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register lists archeological, historic, and architectural properties, such as districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects nominated for their local, State, or national significance by State and federal agencies and approved by the National Register Staff. The National Park Service maintains the National Register.

National Wild and Scenic River System: A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams - (1) recreation—rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past, (2) scenic—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads, and (3) wild—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

Native plant and animal populations and communities: Populations and communities of all species of plants and animals naturally occurring, other than as a result of an introduction, either presently or historically in an ecosystem.

Neotropical Migratory Birds: Birds that travel to Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico during the fall to spend the winter and then return to the United States and Canada during the spring to breed. These birds include almost half of the bird species that breed in the United States and Canada.

No Surface Occupancy: A major constraint where use or occupancy of the land surface for fluid mineral exploration or development and surface-disturbing activities is prohibited to protect identified resource values. Areas identified as NSO are open to fluid mineral leasing, but surface-disturbing activities cannot be conducted. Access to fluid mineral deposits will require directional drilling from outside the boundaries of the NSO. NSO areas are treated as avoidance areas for rights-of-way, which would not be granted unless there were no feasible alternatives. The NSO stipulation includes stipulations that may be worded as No Surface Use/Occupancy, No Surface

Disturbance, Conditional NSO, or Surface Disturbance or Surface Occupancy Restriction (by location).

Nonfunctional Condition: (1) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover are not maintaining soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. (2) Riparian-wetland areas are considered to be in nonfunctioning condition when they don't provide adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, or other normal characteristics of riparian areas.

Nonpoint Source Pollution (water): Pollution sources that are diffuse and do not have a single point of origin or are not introduced into a receiving water body from a specific outlet. These pollutants are generally carried off the land by storm water runoff from such sources as farming, forestry, mining, urban land uses, construction, and land sale.

Notice of Availability (NOA): The *Federal Register* notice that an EIS (draft or final) or record of decision is available. Publication of a notice of filing of an EIS by the Environmental Protection Agency formally begins the public comment period. An NOA may also be published for an EA.

Notice of Intent (NOI): this *Federal Register* notice announces that an environmental impact statement or an EA-level land use plan amendment will be prepared. Publication of this notice formally starts the scoping process.

Noxious Weed: The Federal Noxious Weed Act, 1974 (PL 930629) defines a noxious weed as, "any living stage (including seeds and reproductive parts) of a parasitic or other plant of a kind which is of foreign origin, is new to or not widely prevalent in the U.S., and can directly or indirectly injure crops, other useful plants, livestock, poultry or other interests of agriculture, including irrigation, navigation, fish and wildlife resources, or the public health."

Objective: A description of a desired future resource condition to be achieved in a specified time frame to meet land use plan goals.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV): Any vehicle capable of or designed for travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain (deriving motive power from any source other than muscle.) OHVs exclude (1) any non-amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for official or emergency purposes; and (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by a permit, lease, license, agreement, or contract issued by an authorized officer or otherwise approved. (43 CFR 8340.0-5)

Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV): Used to evaluate eligibility of river segments under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Outstandingly remarkable values are defined as natural and cultural resources that are either unique at a regional level or exemplary at the national level.

Paleontological Resources: The remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock. Paleontological resources are important for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

Perennial Plant: A plant that has a life cycle of 3 or more years.

Perennial Stream: A stream that flows continuously during all seasons of the year.

Permittee: A person or company permitted to graze livestock on public land.

Permitted Use: The forage allocated by, or under the guidance of, an applicable land use plan for livestock grazing in an allotment under a permit or lease and is expressed in Animal Unit Months (AUMs) (43 CFR § 4100.0-5).

Plan Evaluation: The process of reviewing the land use plan and the periodic plan monitoring reports to determine whether the land use plan decisions and NEPA analysis are still valid and whether the plan is being implemented.

Plant Vigor: The relative wellbeing and health of a plant as reflected by its ability to manufacture enough food for growth and maintenance.

Population: A group of interbreeding organisms of the same kind occupying a particular space; a group of individuals of a species living in a certain area.

Preferred Alternative: The alternative the BLM believes would reasonably accomplish the purpose and need for the proposed action while fulfilling its statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. This alternative may or may not be the same as the BLM's or the proponent's proposed action.

Prescribed Fire (Burning): The planned applying of fire to rangeland vegetation and fuels under specified conditions of fuels, weather, and other variables to allow the fire to remain in a predetermined area to achieve such site-specific objectives as controlling certain plant species; enhancing growth, reproduction, or vigor of plant species; managing fuel loads; and managing vegetation community types.

Primitive Recreation: Recreation that provides opportunities for isolation from the evidence of humans, a vastness of scale, feeling a part of the natural environment, having a high degree of challenge and risk, and using outdoor skills. Primitive recreation is characterized by meeting nature on its own terms, without comfort or convenience of facilities.

Priority Habitat Management Areas (PHMA): PHMA have the highest conservation value for GRSG, based on the presence of larger leks, habitat extent, important movement and connectivity corridors, and winter habitat. They include adequate area to accommodate existing land uses and landowner activities.

Proper Functioning Condition (PFC): (1) An element of the Fundamental of Rangeland Health for watersheds, and therefore a required element of State or regional standard and guidelines under 43 CFR § 4180.2(b). (2) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. (3) Riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high waterflows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development; improve floodwater retention and groundwater recharge; develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action; develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian-wetland areas is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water, and vegetation. (4) Uplands function properly when the existing vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions capable of sustaining natural biotic communities. The functioning condition of uplands is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water, and vegetation.

Protest: An opportunity for a qualified party to seek an administrative review of a proposed decision in accordance with program-specific regulations. For example, a protest may be filed with the Director of the BLM for review of a proposed resource management plan or plan amendment (43 CFR 1610.5-2), or a proposed grazing decision may be protested for review by the authorized officer (43 CFR 4160.2).

Public Lands: As defined by Public Law 94-579 (Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976), lands and interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through BLM, regardless of how the United States acquired possession. In common usage, public lands may refer to all federal land no matter what agency manages it. Also see Acquired Public Lands.

Range Improvement: An authorized physical modification or treatment which is designed to improve production of forage; change vegetation composition; control patterns of use; provide water; stabilize soil and water conditions; restore, protect and improve the condition of rangeland ecosystems to benefit livestock, wild horses and burros, and fish and wildlife. The term includes, but is not limited to structures, treatment projects and use of mechanical devices or modifications achieved through mechanical means (43 CFR § 4100.0-5).

Rangeland: A kind of land on which the native vegetation, climax or natural potential consists predominantly of grasses, grass like plants, forbs, or shrubs. Rangeland includes lands revegetated naturally or artificially to provide a non-crop plant cover that is managed like native vegetation. Rangeland may consist of natural grasslands, savannahs, shrublands, most deserts, tundra, alpine communities, coastal marshes, and wet meadows.

Rangeland Health: The degree to which the integrity of the soil and ecological processes of rangeland ecosystems are sustained. Rangeland health exists when ecological processes are functioning properly to maintain the structure, organization, and activity of the system over time.

Reach: A relatively homogeneous section of a stream having a repetitious sequence of physical characteristics and habitat types.

Reasonably Foreseeable Action: Actions for which there are existing decisions, funding, formal proposals, or which are highly probable, based on known opportunities or trends.

Reclamation: The main objectives of reclamation include the stabilization of the terrain, assurance of public safety, aesthetic improvement, and usually a return of the land to what, within the regional context, is considered to be a useful purpose. Revegetation, which is normally a component of land reclamation, may entail the establishment of only one or few species. Reclamation projects that are more ecologically based can qualify as rehabilitation or even restoration. Commonly used in the context of mined lands in North America and the UK, has an even broader application than rehabilitation.

Record of Decision: A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by the preparing of an environmental impact statement.

Recreation and Public Purpose Act of 1926 (44 Stat. 741, as amended; 43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.): An act of Congress that allows lease or acquisition of public land to be used for recreation or public purposes by local government entities (county or city governments) and nonprofit organizations.

Rehabilitation: Emphasizes the reparation of ecosystem processes, productivity, and services, whereas the goals of restoration also include the re-establishment of the pre-existing biotic integrity in terms of species composition and community structure.

Relinquishment: The voluntary and permanent surrender by an existing permittee or lessee, (with concurrence of any base property lienholder(s)), of their priority for a livestock forage allocation on public land (their preference) as well as their permission to use this forage (their grazing permit or lease), in whole or in part.

Required Design Features (RDFs): These are required for certain activities in all GRSG habitat. RDFs establish the minimum specifications for certain activities to help mitigate adverse impacts. However, the applicability and overall effectiveness of each RDF cannot be fully assessed until the project begins, when the project location and design are known. Because of site-specific circumstances, some RDFs may not apply to some projects (e.g., a resource is not present on a given site) or may require slight variations (e.g., a larger or smaller protective area). All variations in RDFs will require that at least one of the following be demonstrated in the NEPA analysis associated with the project or activity:

- A specific RDF is documented to not be applicable to the site-specific conditions of the project or activity (e.g., due to site limitations or engineering considerations). Economic considerations, such as increased costs, do not necessarily require that an RDF be varied or rendered inapplicable.
- An alternative RDF, state-implemented conservation measure, or plan-level protection is determined to provide equal or better protection for GRSG or its habitat.
- A specific RDF will provide no additional protection to GRSG or its habitat.

Research Natural Area (RNA): An area of critical environmental concern that is a physical or biological unit in which current natural conditions are maintained insofar as possible. In RNAs activities such as grazing, and vegetation manipulation are prohibited unless they replace natural processes and contribute to protecting and preserving an area. Moreover, such recreation as camping and gathering plants is discouraged.

Reserve Common Allotment: An area designated in the land use plan as available for livestock grazing but reserved as for use as an alternative to grazing in another allotment. This would be to facilitate rangeland restoration treatments and recovery from natural disturbances, such as drought or wildfire. The reserve common allotment would provide needed flexibility that would help the agency apply temporary rest from grazing where vegetation treatments or management would be most effective.

Resource Advisory Councils (RACs): Advisory councils appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and consisting of representatives of major public land interest groups (e.g., commodity industries, recreation, environmental, and local area interests) in a state or smaller area. RACs advise BLM, focusing on a full array of multiple use public land issues. RACs also help develop fundamentals for rangeland health and guidelines for livestock grazing.

Resource Management Plan (RMP): (also known as Land Use Plan or Management Framework Plan). A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, P.L. 94-579, 90 Stat. 2743; an assimilation of land use plan-level decisions developed through the planning process outlined in 43 CFR 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed.

Restoration: The process of assisting the recovery and management of ecological integrity. Ecological integrity includes a critical range of variability in biodiversity, ecological processes and structures, regional and historical context, and sustainable cultural practices.

Right-of-Way: A permit or easement that authorizes the use of lands for certain specified purposes, commonly for pipelines, roads, telephone lines, or powerlines.

Riparian: Pertaining to or situated on or along the bank of streams, lakes, and reservoirs.

Riparian Area: A form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels. Excluded are ephemeral streams or washes that lack vegetation and depend on free water in the soil.

Road: (From BLM 9100 manual) ...a transportation facility used primarily by vehicles having four or more wheels, documented as such by the owner, and maintained for regular and continuous use.

Road and Route Types:

Primary Road - A regularly maintained route, paved or unpaved, wide enough for at least two vehicles to pass. Provides access between two major points. Serves a large area with many routes of lesser quality branching from it.

Secondary Road - Paved or unpaved, a regularly maintained one- to two-lane route with routes of lesser quality branching from it. Connects primary roads and major points.

Tertiary Road - Generally a two-track route that may or may not be usable by a two-wheel drive vehicle. Does not receive formal maintenance.

Single-Track Route - A route up to 1/2-meter-wide upon which all-terrain vehicles or trucks are not allowed.

Way - A road-like feature used by vehicles having four or more wheels but not declared a road by the owner. A way receives no maintenance to guarantee regular and continuous use.

Spur - A route that exists for a specific purpose, such as access to a specific use or feature. Uses can be recreational or commercial. Features include campsites, mines, or range developments. A spur route is connected to another road or route type.

Reclaiming or Reclaimed (route) - A route that has had very little or no use, so that there is woody vegetation growing in the route that would be damaged by the passage of a vehicle. Erosion or vegetation may block the route and could damage a vehicle or cause it to get stuck.

Rock Crawling: The use of specialized motor vehicles for crossing difficult terrain. Also known as extreme technical trail driving.

Route: Any motorized, non-motorized, or mechanized transportation corridor. Corridor may either be terrestrial or waterway. "Roads" and "Trails" are considered routes.

Salable Minerals: Common variety minerals on public lands, such as sand and gravel, which are used mainly for construction and are disposed of by sales or special permits to local governments.

Scoping: The process by which the BLM solicits internal and external input on the issues and effects that will be addressed, as well as the degree to which those issues and effects will be analyzed in the NEPA document. Scoping is one form of public involvement in the NEPA process. Scoping occurs early in the NEPA process and generally extends through the development of alternatives (the public comment periods for EIS review are not scoping). Internal scoping is simply the use of BLM staff to decide what needs to be analyzed in a NEPA document. External scoping, also known as formal scoping, involves notification and opportunities for feedback from other agencies, organizations, and the public.

Section 7 Consultation: The requirement of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act that all

federal agencies consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service if a proposed action might affect a federally listed species or its critical habitat.

Sediment: Solid material that originates mostly from disintegrated rocks and is transported by, suspended in, or deposited from water. Sediment includes chemical and biochemical precipitates and decomposed organic material such as humus.

Sedimentation: The process or action of depositing sediment.

Sensitive Species: All species that are under status review, have small or declining populations, live in unique habitats, or need special management. Sensitive species include threatened, endangered, and proposed species as classified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Short-term Impacts: Impacts that occur during or after the activity or action.

Significant Impact: Effects of sufficient context and intensity that an environmental impact statement is required. The CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1508.27(b) include ten considerations for evaluating intensity.

Snag Trees: Standing dead or dying tree, often missing a top or small branches. Typically provides nesting substrate for cavity and platform nesting species and foraging habitat for insectivorous species.

Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs): Areas of intensive recreation use that will be managed to retain recreation opportunities while protecting other resources and reducing user conflicts. See Recreation Management Zones (RMZs) .

Special Recreation Permit (SRP): An authorization that allows for specific nonexclusive permitted recreational uses of the public lands and related waters. SRPs are issued to control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, provide for the health and safety of visitors, and accommodate commercial recreational uses.

Special Status Species: Plant or animal species listed as threatened, endangered, candidate, or sensitive by the Federal Government or state governments.

Type 1 - species that are listed as threatened, endangered, or candidates under the ESA.

Type 2 - species that are rangewide or globally imperiled species with a high risk of endangerment

Type 3 - species that are rangewide or globally imperiled species with a moderate risk of endangerment

Type 4 - species of concern, including species that are generally rare in Idaho with currently low endangerment threats (BLM 2011B).

Split-Estate: Land whose surface rights and mineral rights are owned by different entities.

Stabilization (Soil): Chemical or mechanical treatment to increase or maintain the stability of a mass of soil or otherwise improve its engineering properties.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO): The official within and authorized by each state at the request of the Secretary of the Interior to act as liaison for the National Historic Preservation Act.

State Implementation Plan: A detailed description of the programs a state will use to carry out its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act. These plans are collections of the regulations used by a state to reduce air pollution. The Clean Air Act requires that the Environmental Protection Agency

approve each plan.

Stipulation (Oil and Gas): A provision that modifies standard oil and gas lease terms and conditions in order to protect other resource values or land uses. It is attached to and made a part of the lease.

Streambank: The portion of a stream channel that restricts the sideward movement of water at normal water levels. The streambank's gradient often exceeds 45 ° and exhibits a distinct break in slope from the stream bottom.

Streambank Stability: A streambank's relative resistance to erosion, which is measured as a percentage of alteration to streambanks.

Substantive Comment: A comment that does one or more of the following: questions, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of information in the EIS or EA; questions, with reasonable basis or facts, the adequacy of, methodology for, or assumptions used for the environmental analysis; presents reasonable alternatives other than those presented in the EIS or EA; or prompts the BLM to consider changes or revisions in one or more of the alternatives.

Surface Disturbance: Any action created through mechanized or mechanical means that would cause soil mixing or result in alteration or removal of soil or vegetation and expose the mineral soil to erosive processes. Used in the literal context of actual, physical disturbance and movement or removal of the land surface and vegetation.

Terrestrial: Ground-dwelling plants and animals.

Threatened Species: Any plant or animal species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a part of its range and designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act. Also see Endangered Species.

Timing Limitation: Areas identified for timing limitations, a moderate constraint, are closed to fluid mineral exploration and development, surface-disturbing activities, and intensive human activity during identified time frames. This stipulation does not apply to operation and basic maintenance activities, including associated vehicle travel, unless otherwise specified. Construction, drilling, completions, and other operations considered to be intensive are not allowed. Intensive maintenance, such as work overs 5. Glossary 5-12 Idaho and Southwestern Montana Greater Sage-grouse Approved RMP Amendment September 2015 on wells, is not permitted. TLs can overlap with NSOs and CSUs, as well as with areas that have no other restrictions.

Total Maximum Daily Load: An estimate of the total quantity of pollutants (from all sources: point, nonpoint, and natural) that may be allowed into waters without exceeding applicable water quality criteria.

Turbidity: Cloudiness of water measured by how deeply light can penetrate it from the surface. Highly turbid water is often called "muddy" although all kinds of suspended particles contribute to turbidity.

Unauthorized Use: Any use of the public lands not authorized or permitted.

Uplands: Lands at higher elevations than the alluvial plain or low stream terrace; all lands outside the riparian-wetland and aquatic zones.

Urban Interface (Wildland-Urban Interface): The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetation. This interface

creates conflicts and complicates fighting wildfires and conducting prescribed burns, as well as all other natural resource management activities.

Utilization (Forage): The percentage of forage that has been consumed by livestock, wild horses and burros, wildlife, and insects during a specified period. The term is also used to refer to the pattern of such use.

Valid Existing Rights: Locatable mineral development rights that existed when the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) was enacted on October 21, 1976. Some areas are segregated from entry and location under the Mining Law to protect certain values or allow certain uses. Mining claims that existed as of the effective date of the segregation may still be valid if they can meet the test of discovery of a valuable mineral required under the Mining Law. Determining the validity of mining claims located on segregated lands requires BLM to conduct a valid existing rights determination.

Vegetation Structure: The composition of an area's vegetation--plant species, growth forms, abundance, vegetation types, and spatial arrangement.

Vegetation Treatments: Treatments that improve vegetation condition or production. Such treatments may include seedings; prescribed burning; or chemical, mechanical, and biological plant control.

Vegetation Type: A plant community with distinguishable characteristics.

Viability: The capability of living, developing, growing, or germinating under favorable conditions.

Visibility: A sensitive indicator, which means that small changes in concentrations of visibility-impairing pollutants could affect visibility.

Viewshed: The entire area visible from a viewpoint.

Visitor Day: 12 visitor hours, which may be aggregated continuously, intermittently, or simultaneously by one or more people.

Visual Resource Management (VRM): The planning, design, and implementing of management objectives to provide acceptable levels of visual impacts for all BLM resource management activities.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes: Classes with specific objectives for maintaining or enhancing scenic quality including the kinds of landscape modifications that are acceptable to meet the objectives.

Class I - (Preservation) provides for natural, ecological changes only. This class includes wilderness areas, some natural areas, some wild and scenic rivers, and other similar sites where landscape modification should be restricted.

Class II - (Retention of the landscape character) includes areas where changes in any of the basic elements (form, line, color, or texture) caused by management activities should not be evident in the characteristic landscape.

Class III - (Partial retention of the landscape character) includes areas where changes in the basic elements caused by management activities may be evident in the characteristic landscape. But the changes should remain subordinate to the existing landscape character.

Class IV - (Modification of the landscape character) includes areas where changes may subordinate the original composition and character. But the changes should reflect what could

be a natural occurrence in the characteristic landscape.

Waiver (Oil and Gas): Permanent exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation no longer applies anywhere within the leasehold.

Watershed Condition (Watershed Health): The comparison of watershed processes to normal or expected measurements of properties such as soil cover, erosion rate, runoff rate, and groundwater table elevation; an assessment or categorization of an area by erosion conditions, erosion hazards, and the soil moisture/temperature regime.

Watershed Function: The combination of processes attributed to watersheds as part of the hydrologic cycle, including interception of rain by plants, rocks, and litter; surface storage by the soil; groundwater storage; stream channel storage; soil evaporation; plant transpiration; and runoff. These processes affect the following properties of the watershed: runoff rate, water infiltration rate, soil building rate, soil erosion rate, groundwater recharge rate, groundwater discharge rate, water table elevation, and surface water discharge. These properties in turn affect plant communities through soil attributes, including soil parent material, soil moisture, and nutrients; stream and rivers through flooding duration and magnitude, as well as sediment load, which structures the dimension, pattern, and profile of channels; and lakes and reservoirs through sedimentation and nutrient input.

Way: See Road and Route Types.

Weed: Any plant that interferes with management objectives. A weed may be native or non-native, invasive, or passive, or non-noxious.

Wetland: An area that is inundated or saturated by surface or ground water often and long enough to support and that under normal circumstances supports a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil. Wetlands include marshes, shallows, swamps, lake shores, bogs, muskegs, wet meadows, estuaries, cienegas, and riparian areas.

Wild and Scenic River Corridor: See National Wild and Scenic River System.

Wilderness: A congressionally designated area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected mainly by the forces of nature, with human imprints substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is large enough to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value. The definition is contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891).

Wilderness Characteristics: BLM Instruction Memorandum 2003-275 Change 1 defines Wilderness Characteristics as, "Features of the land associated with the concept of wilderness that may be considered in land use planning when BLM determines that those characteristics are reasonably present, of sufficient value (condition, uniqueness, relevance, importance) and need (trend, risk), and are practical to manage.

Naturalness. Lands and resources exhibit a high degree of naturalness when affected primarily by the forces of nature and where the imprint of human activity is substantially unnoticeable. BLM has authority to inventory, assess, and/or monitor the attributes of the lands and resources on public lands, which, taken together, are an indication of an area's naturalness. These attributes

may include the presence or absence of roads and trails, fences, and other improvements; the nature and extent of landscape modifications; the presence of native vegetation communities; and the connectivity of habitats.

Solitude and Primitive/Unconfined Recreation. Visitors may have outstanding opportunities for solitude, or primitive and unconfined types of recreation when the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent, where visitors can be isolated, alone or secluded from others, where the use of the area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means, and where no or minimal developed recreation facilities are encountered."

Wilderness Study Area: Areas with wilderness characteristics identified and designated through the inventory and study processes authorized by Section 603 of FLPMA and, prior to 2003, through the planning process authorized by Section 202 of FLPMA.

Wildfire: Unplanned ignition of a wildland fire (such as a fire caused by lightning, volcanoes, unauthorized and accidental human-caused fires) and escaped prescribed fires.

Wildland Fire: A general term describing any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland.

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI): A) an area within or adjacent to an at-risk community that is identified in recommendations to the Secretary in a community wildfire protection plan; or (B) in the case of any area for which a community wildfire protection plan is not in effect— (i) an area extending 1/2-mile from the boundary of an at-risk community; (ii) an area within 1 1/2 miles of the boundary of an at-risk community, including any land that—(I) has a sustained steep slope that creates the potential for wildfire behavior endangering the at-risk community; (II) has a geographic feature that aids in creating an effective fire break, such as a road or ridge top; or (III) is in condition class 3, as documented by the Secretary in the project-specific environmental analysis; and (iii) an area that is adjacent to an evacuation route for an at-risk community that the Secretary determines, in cooperation with the at-risk community, requires hazardous fuel reduction to provide safer evacuation from the at-risk community. (Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA), as amended 2018).

Wildlife: A broad term that includes birds, reptiles, amphibians, and non-domesticated mammals.

Withdrawal: Withholding an area of federal land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws, for the purpose of limiting activities under those laws in order to maintain other public values in the area or reserving the area for a particular public purpose or program; or transferring jurisdiction over an area of federal land, other than property governed by the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act, from one department, bureau, or agency to another department, bureau, or agency.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Maps

Appendix B – Collaboration and Consultation

Appendix C – Standard Operating Procedures

Appendix D – Special Status Plants

Appendix E – Seasonal Wildlife Restrictions

Appendix F – Aquatic Resources

Appendix G – Fluid Mineral Leasing Stipulations

Appendix H – Recreation

Appendix I – Travel Management

Appendix J – Land Tenure

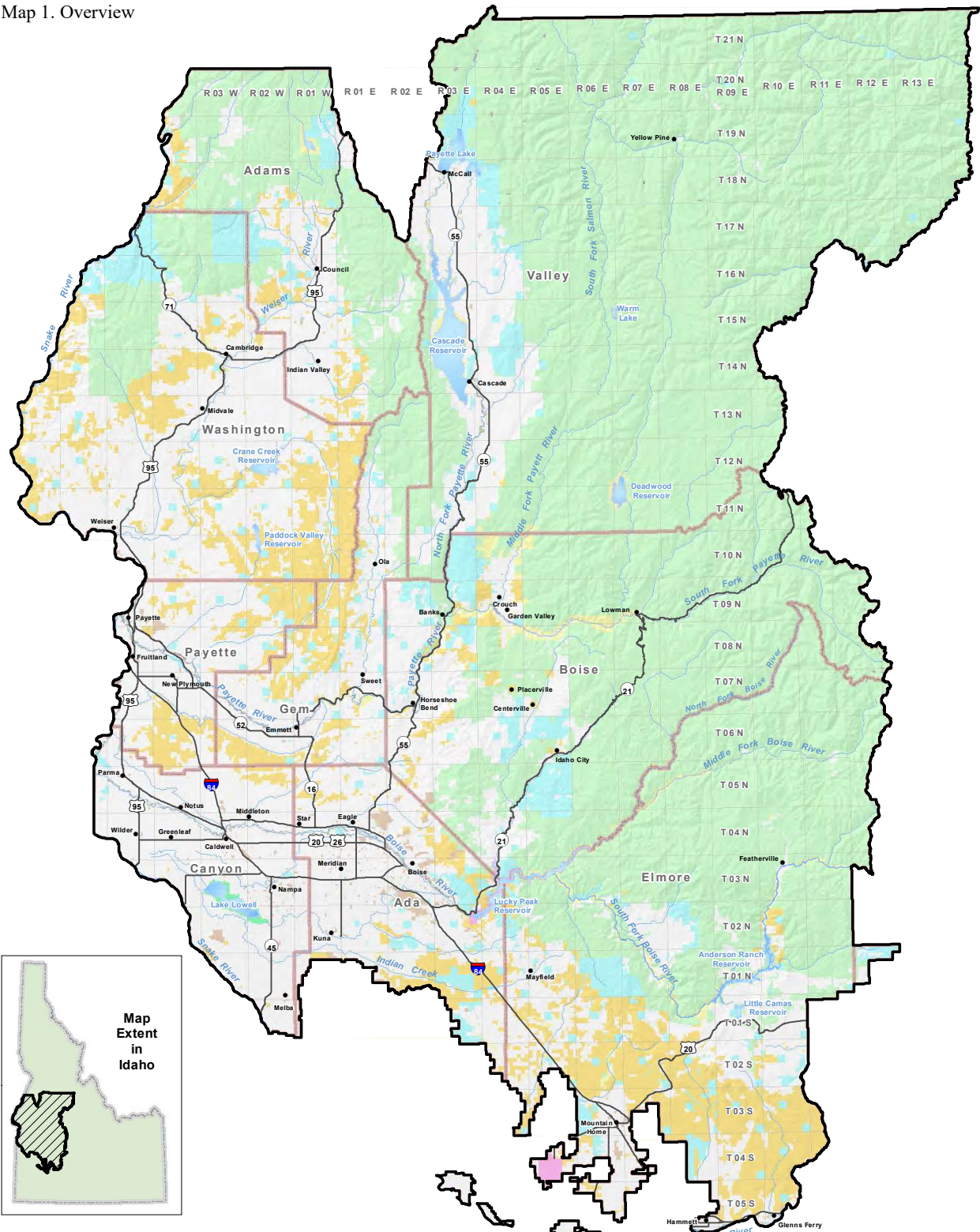
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Appendix A – Maps

Appendix A – Maps

- Map 1. Overview**
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- Map 3. Visual Resource Management**
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Map 1. Overview



Surface Management

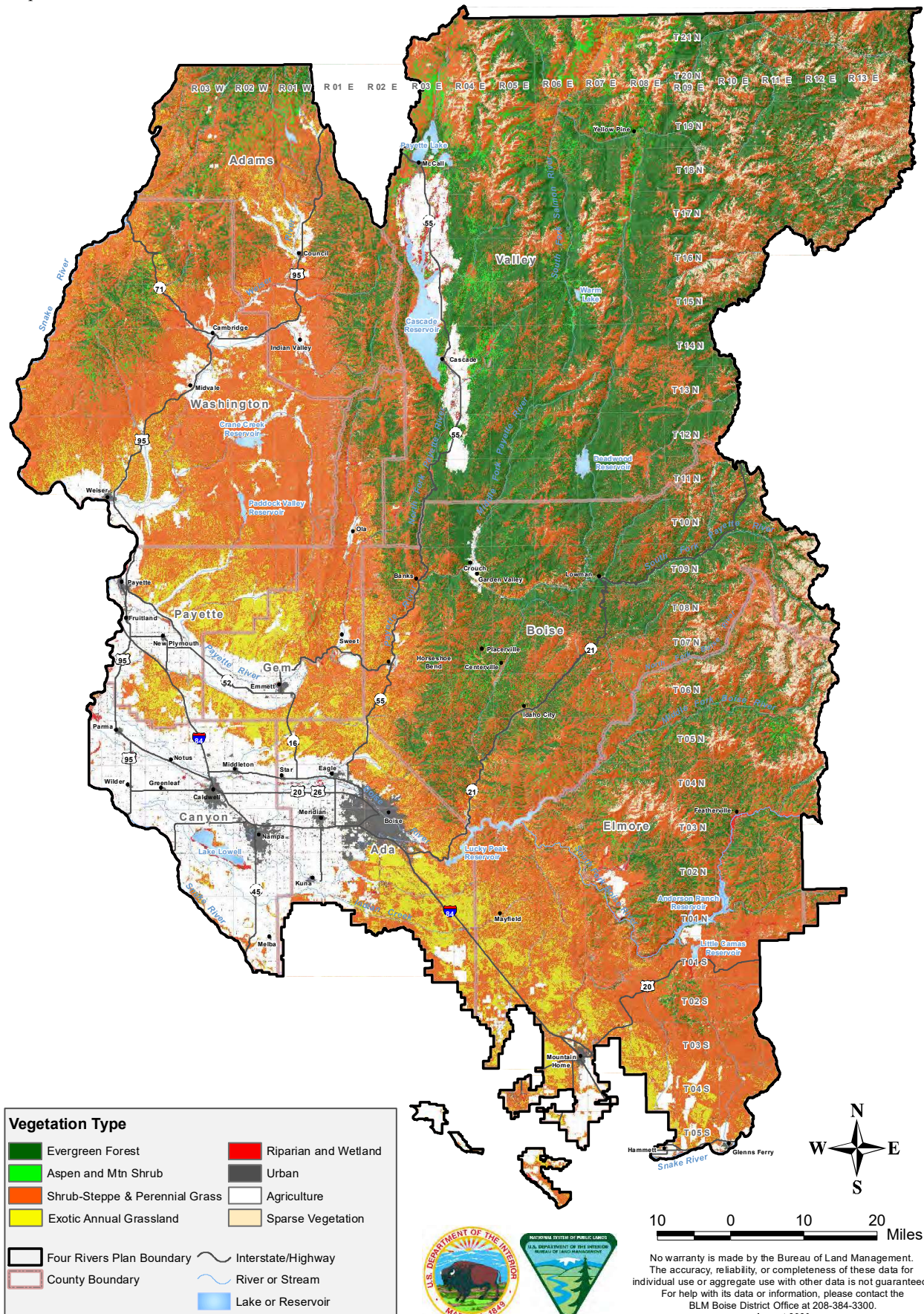
Bureau of Land Management	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation	State of Idaho
USDA Forest Service	Private Land
Military	Other

Four Rivers Plan Boundary Interstate/Highway
 County Boundary River or Stream
 Lake or Reservoir

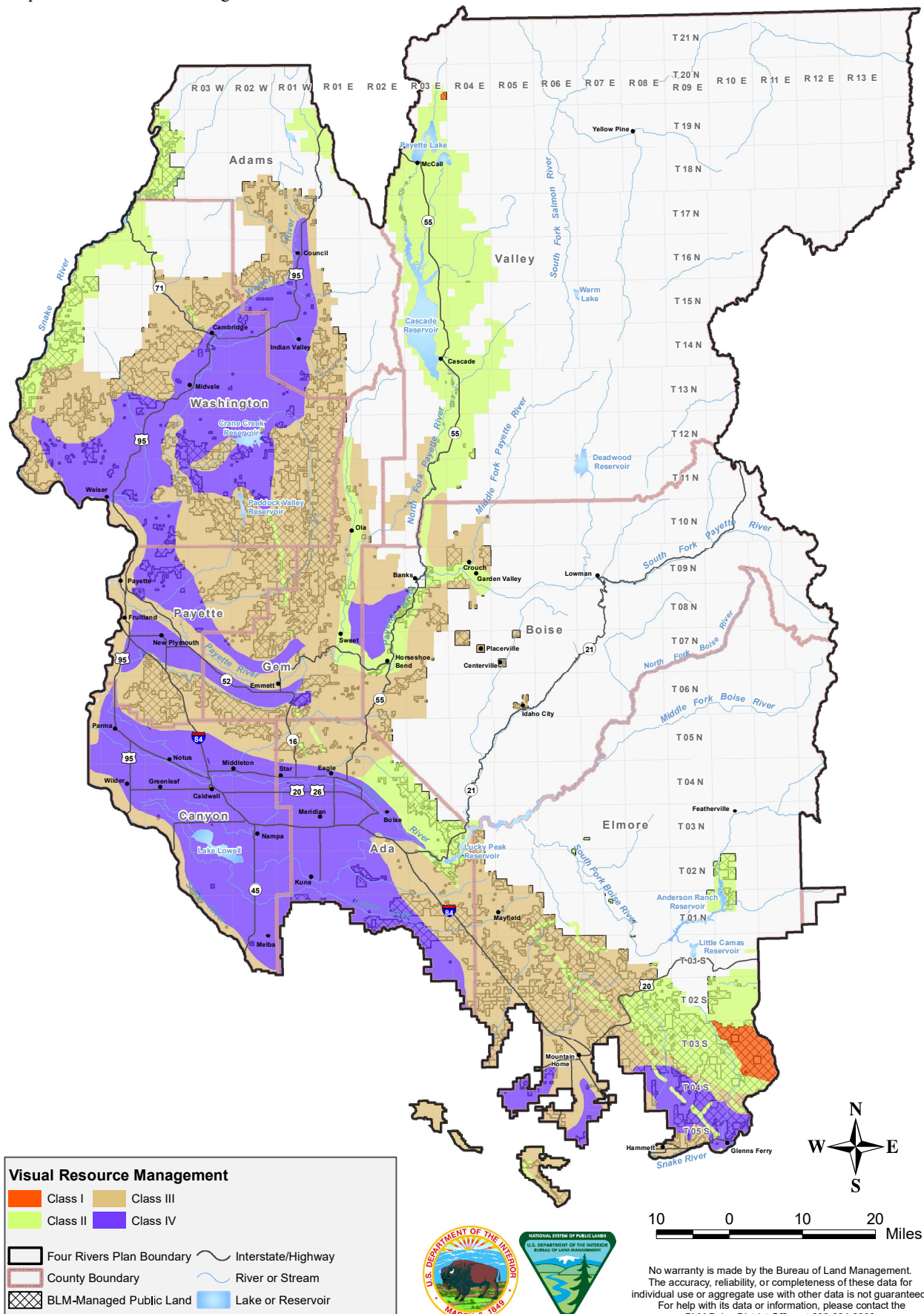


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Map 2. Land Cover

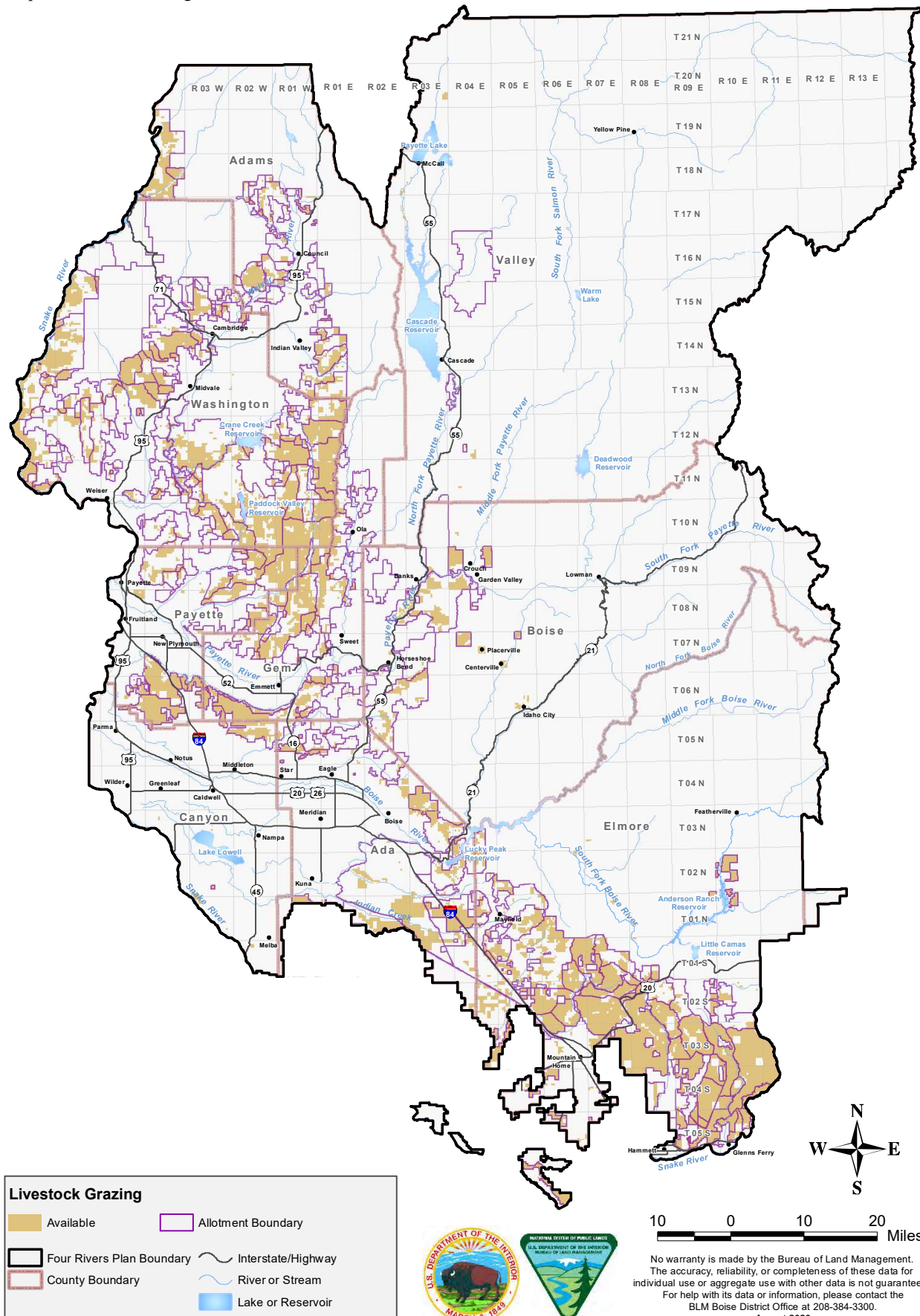


Map 3. Visual Resource Management

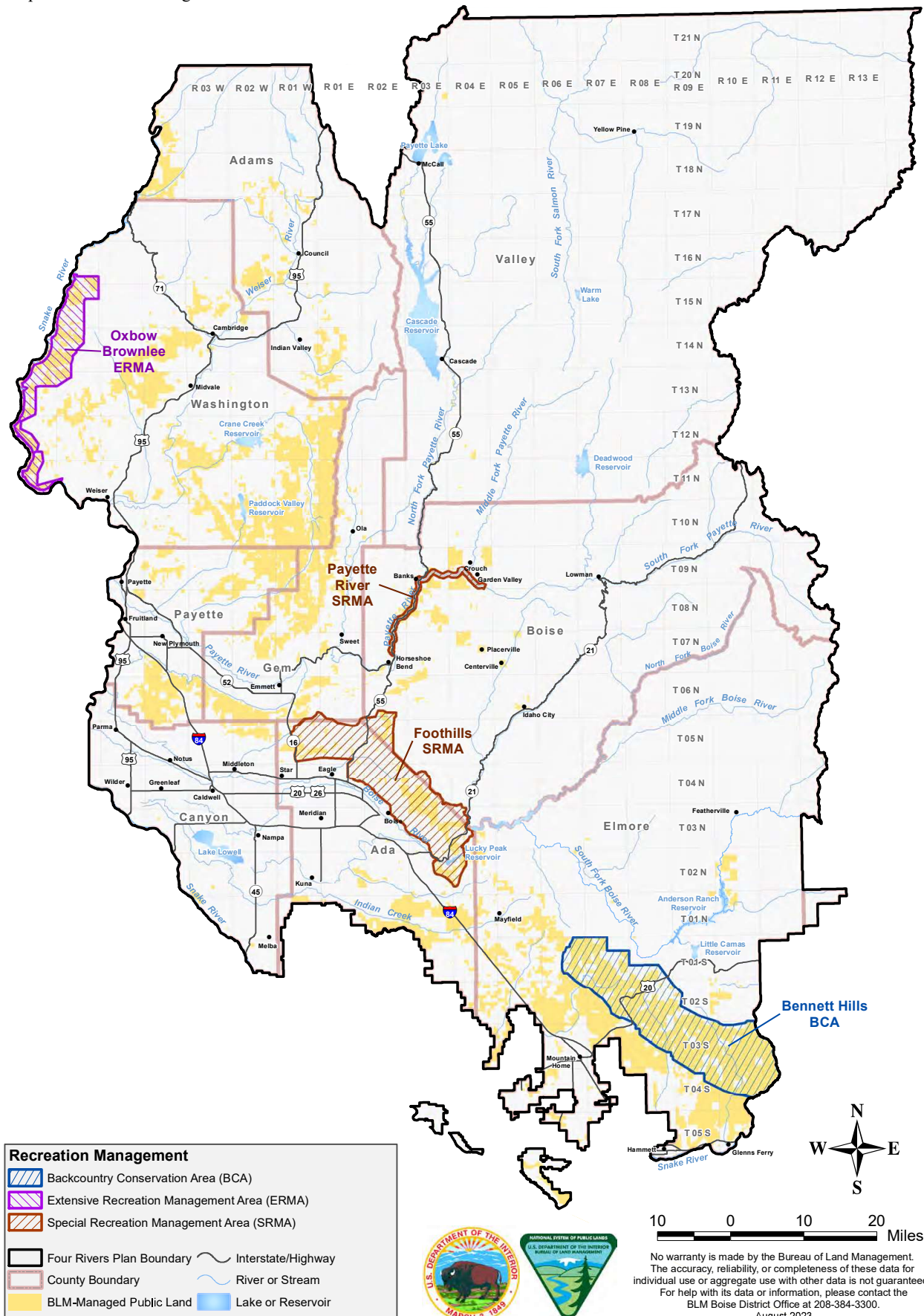


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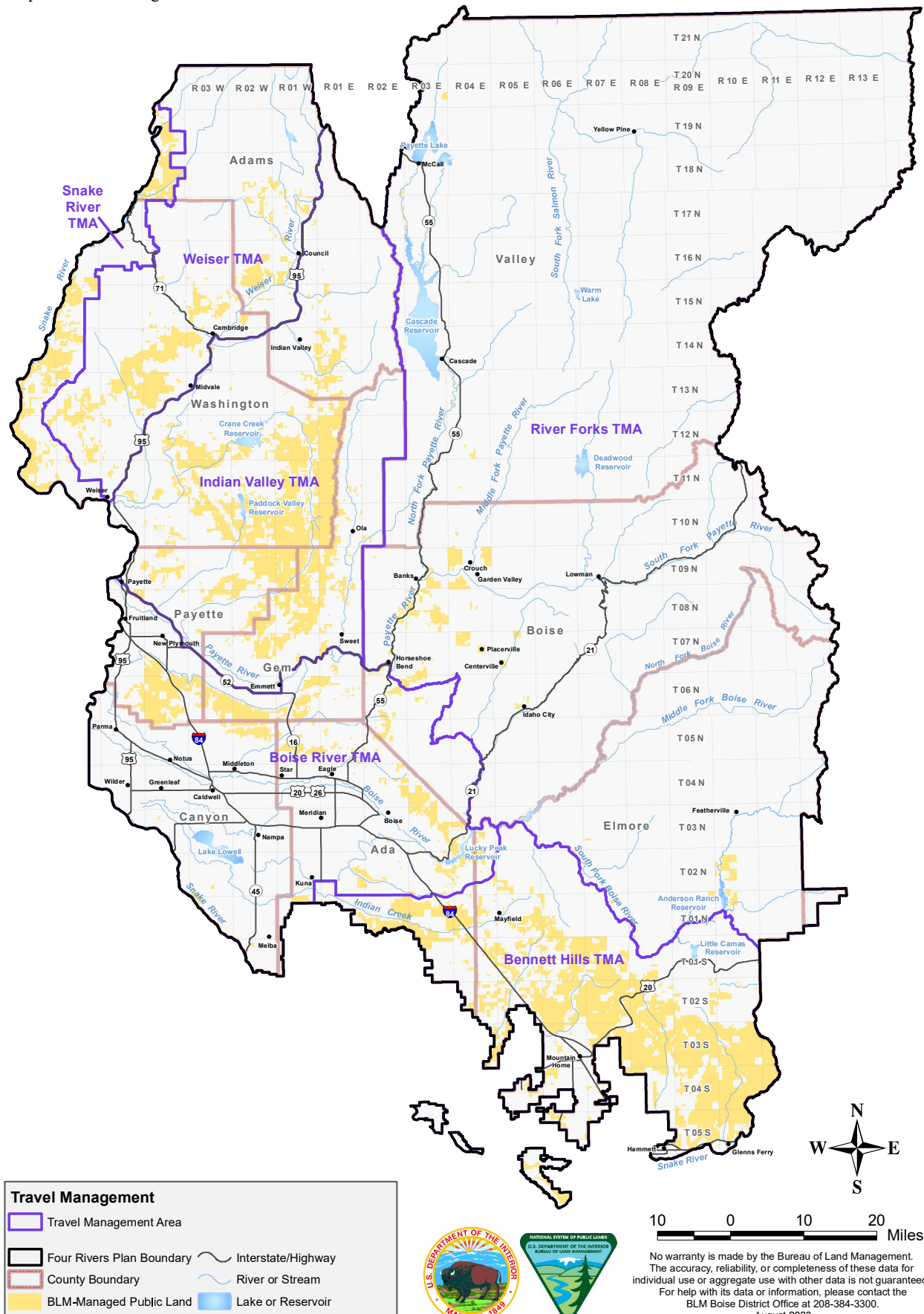
Map 4. Livestock Grazing



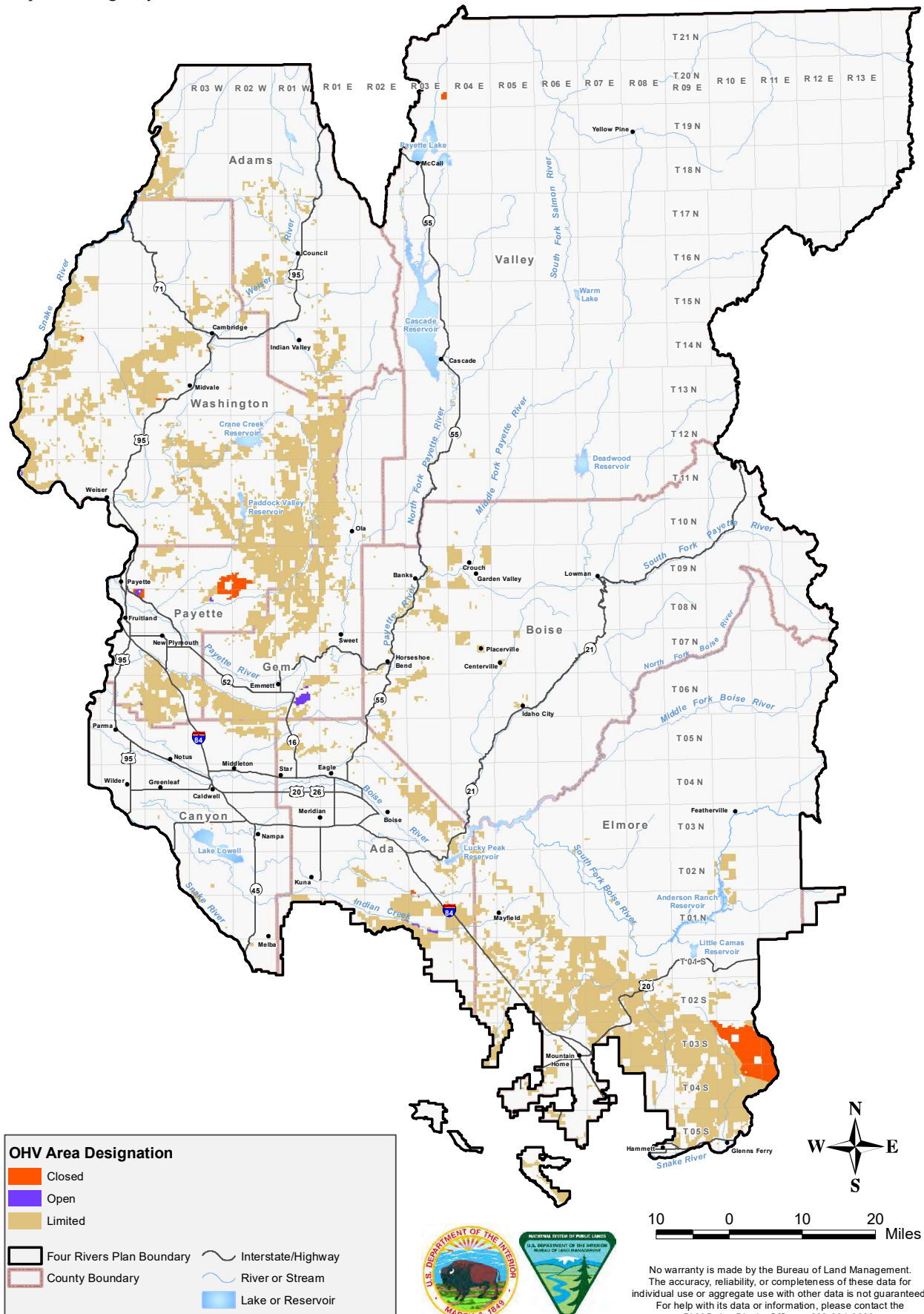
Map 5. Recreation Management



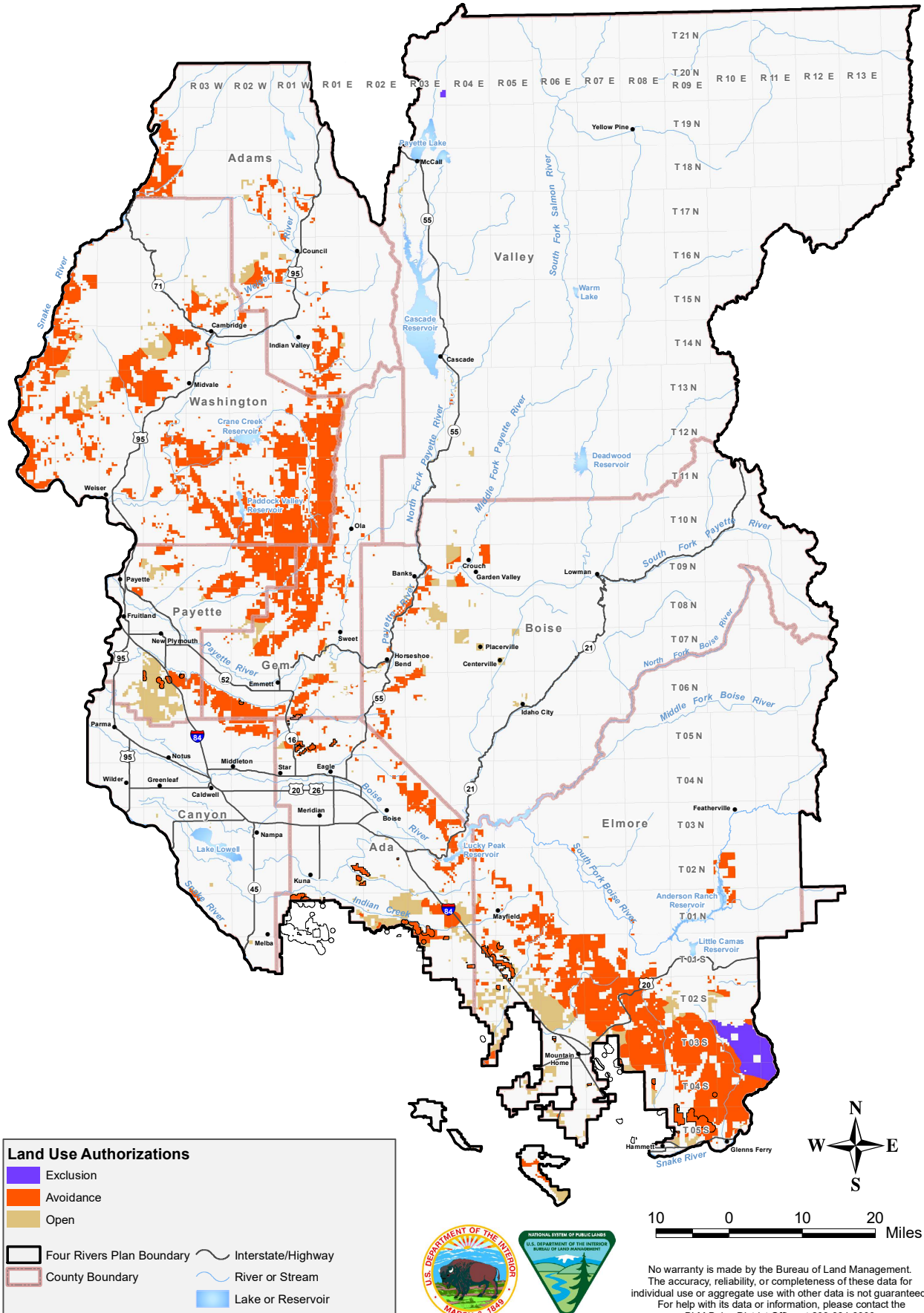
Map 6. Travel Management



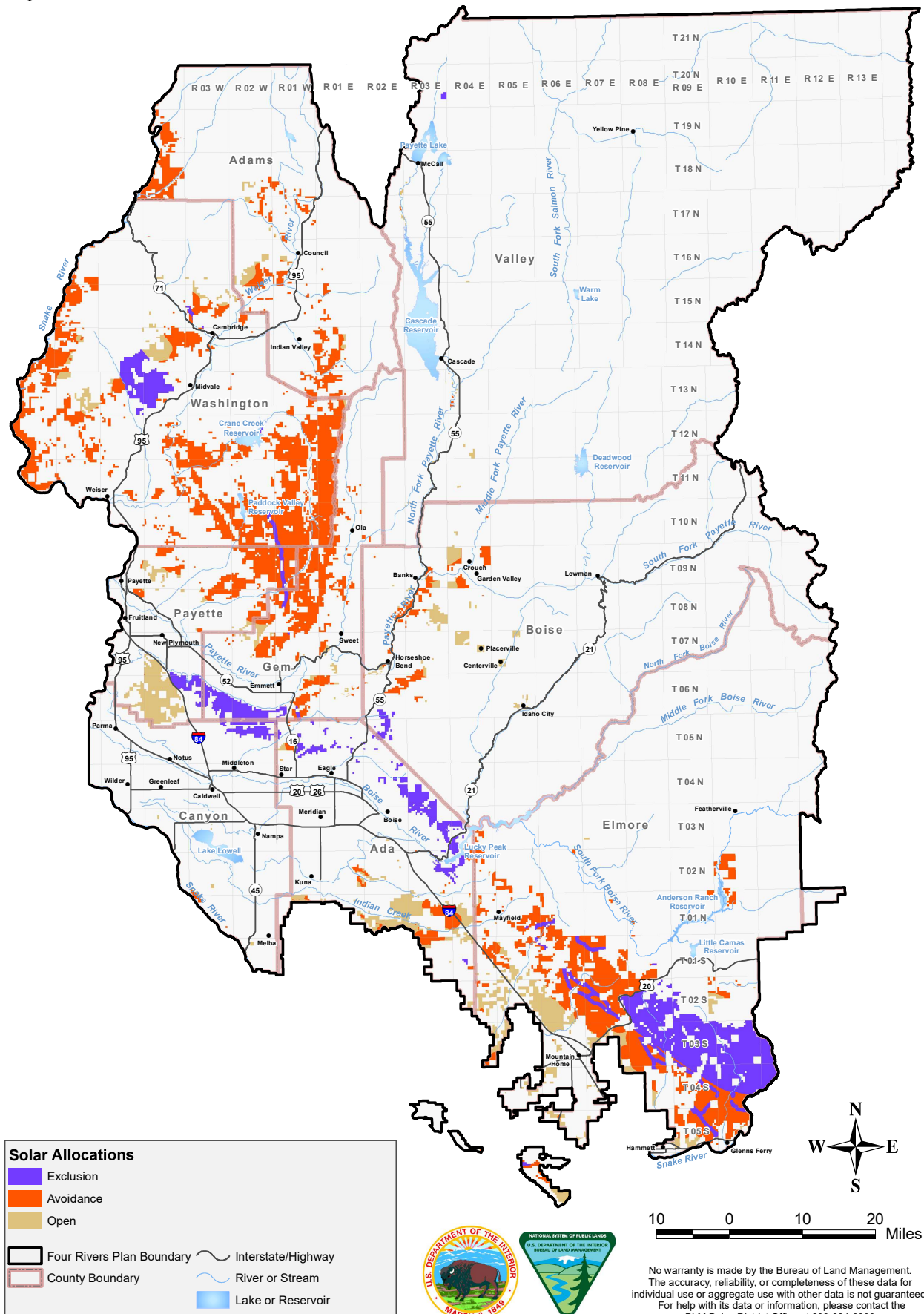
Map 7. Off-Highway Vehicle Area Allocations



Map 9. Land Use Authorizations



Map 10. Solar Allocations



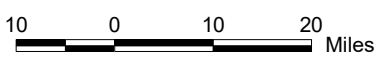
Solar Allocations

- Exclusion
- Avoidance
- Open

Four Rivers Plan Boundary
 County Boundary

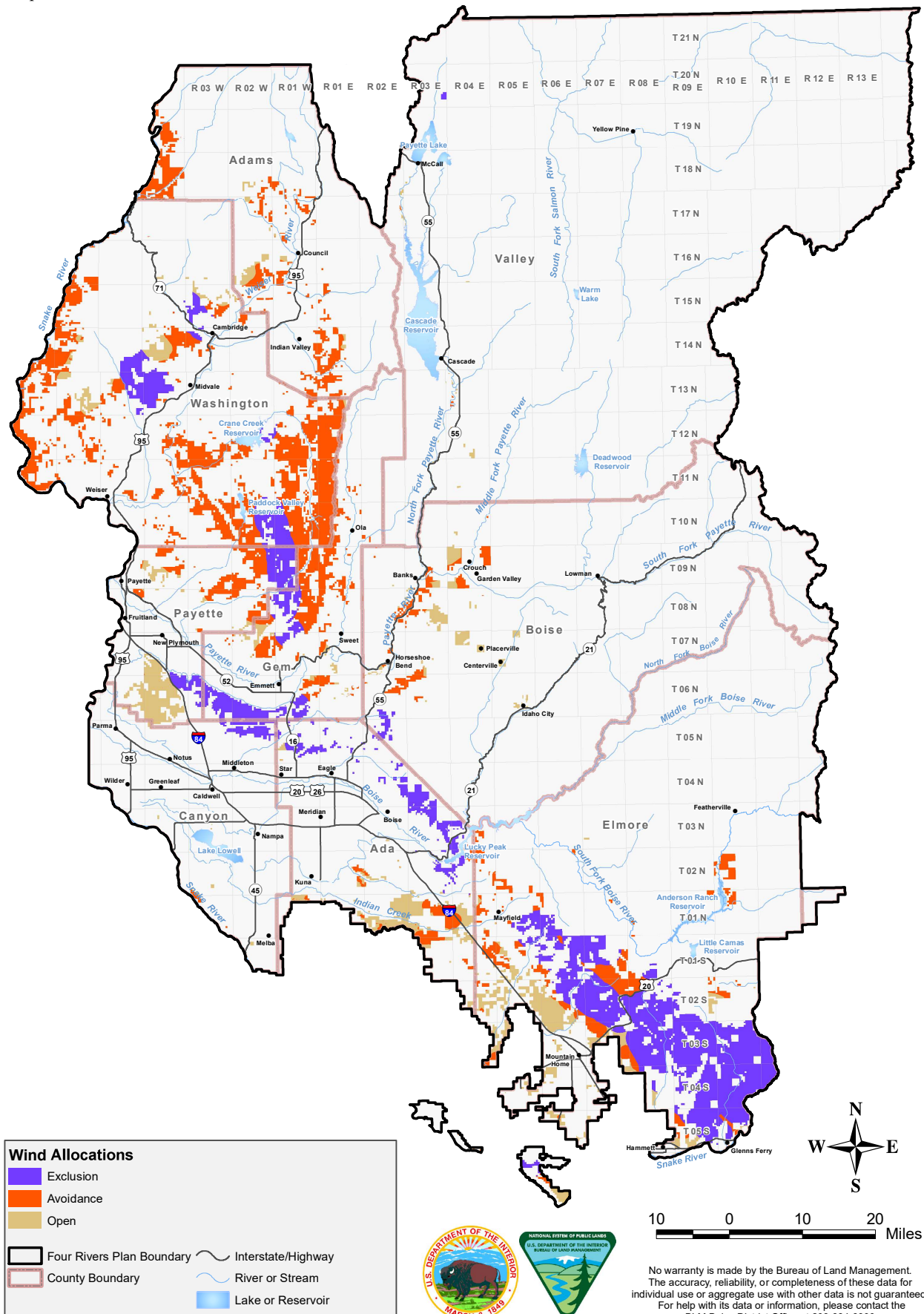
Interstate/Highway
 River or Stream

Lake or Reservoir

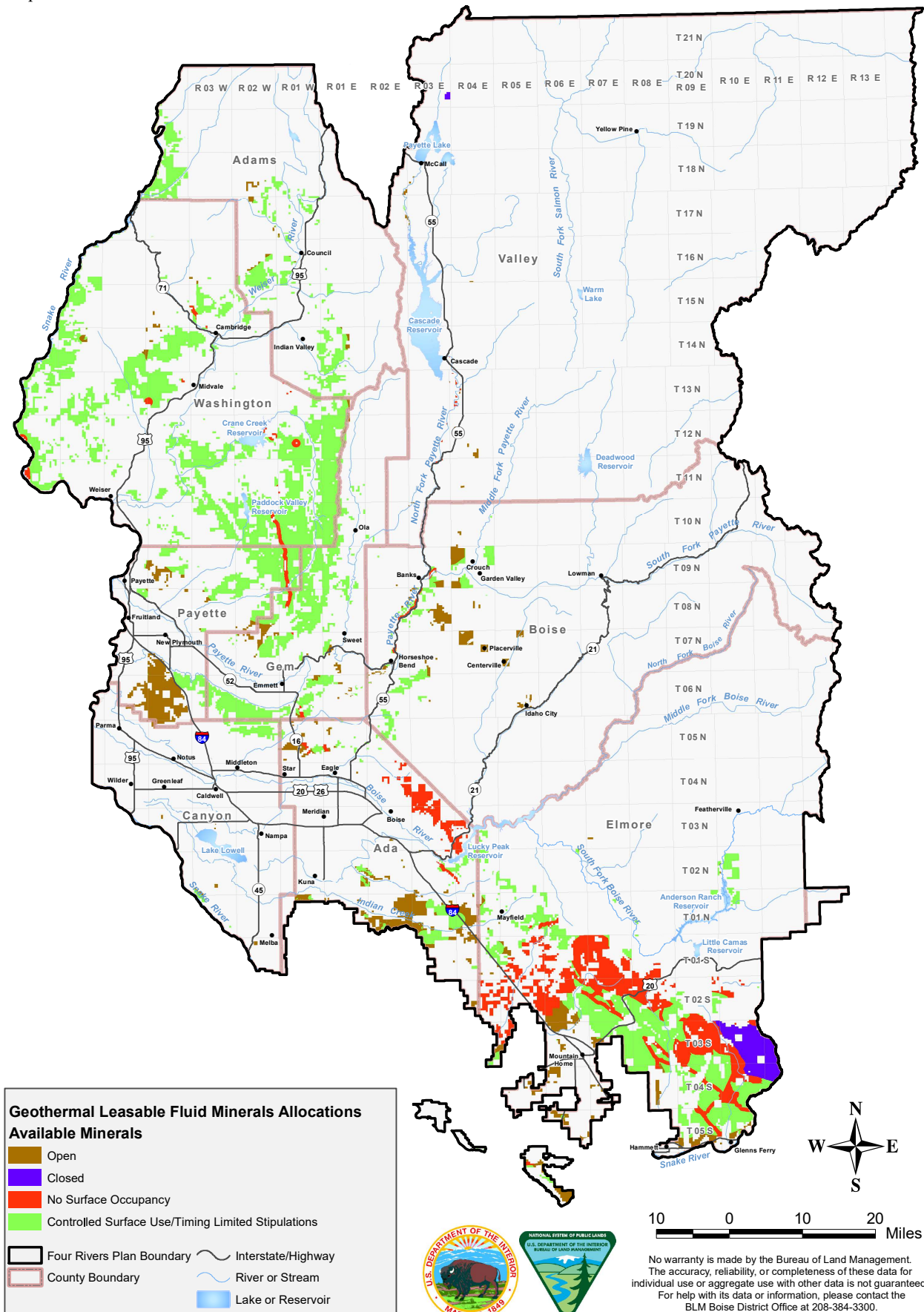


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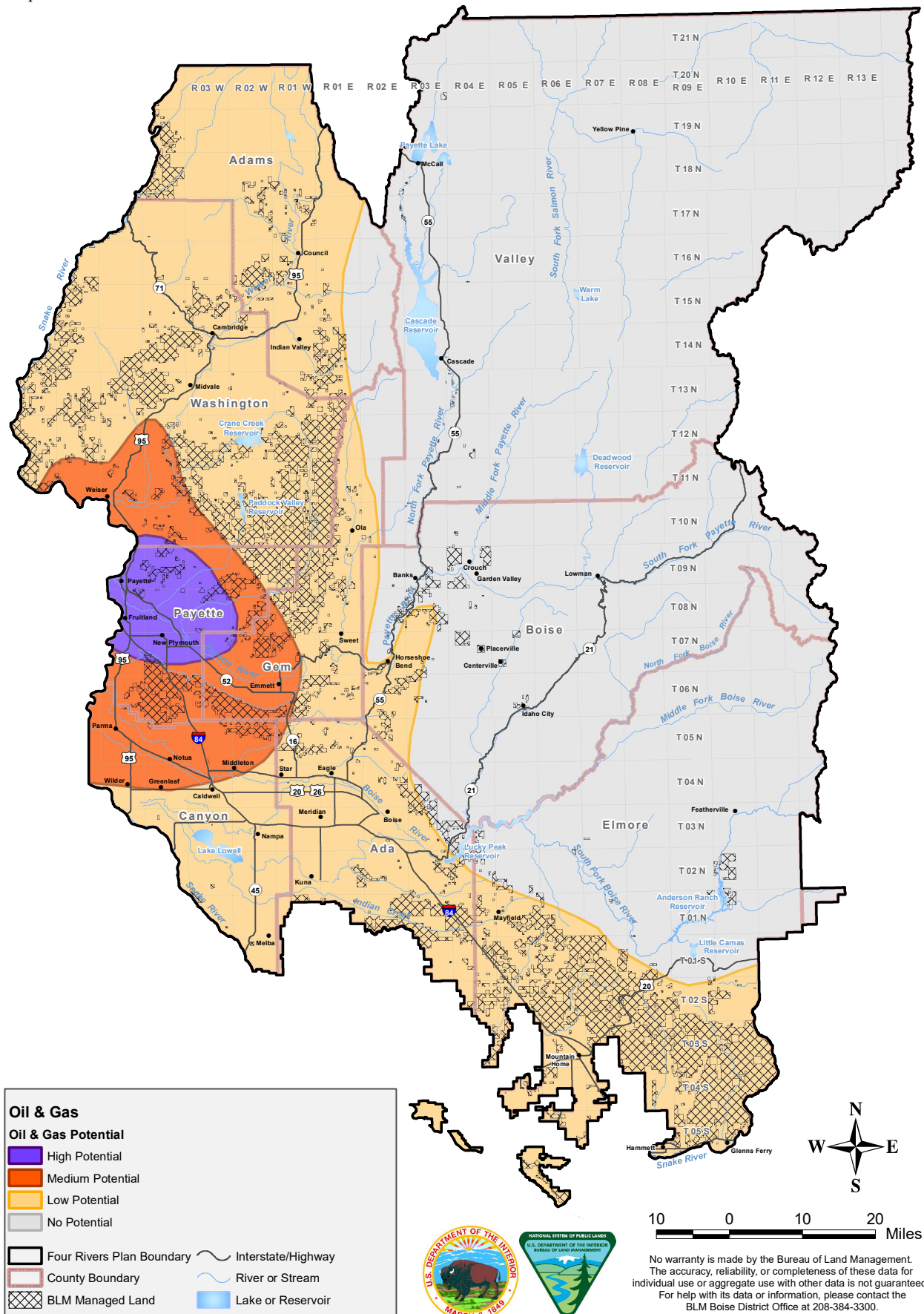
Map 11. Wind Allocations



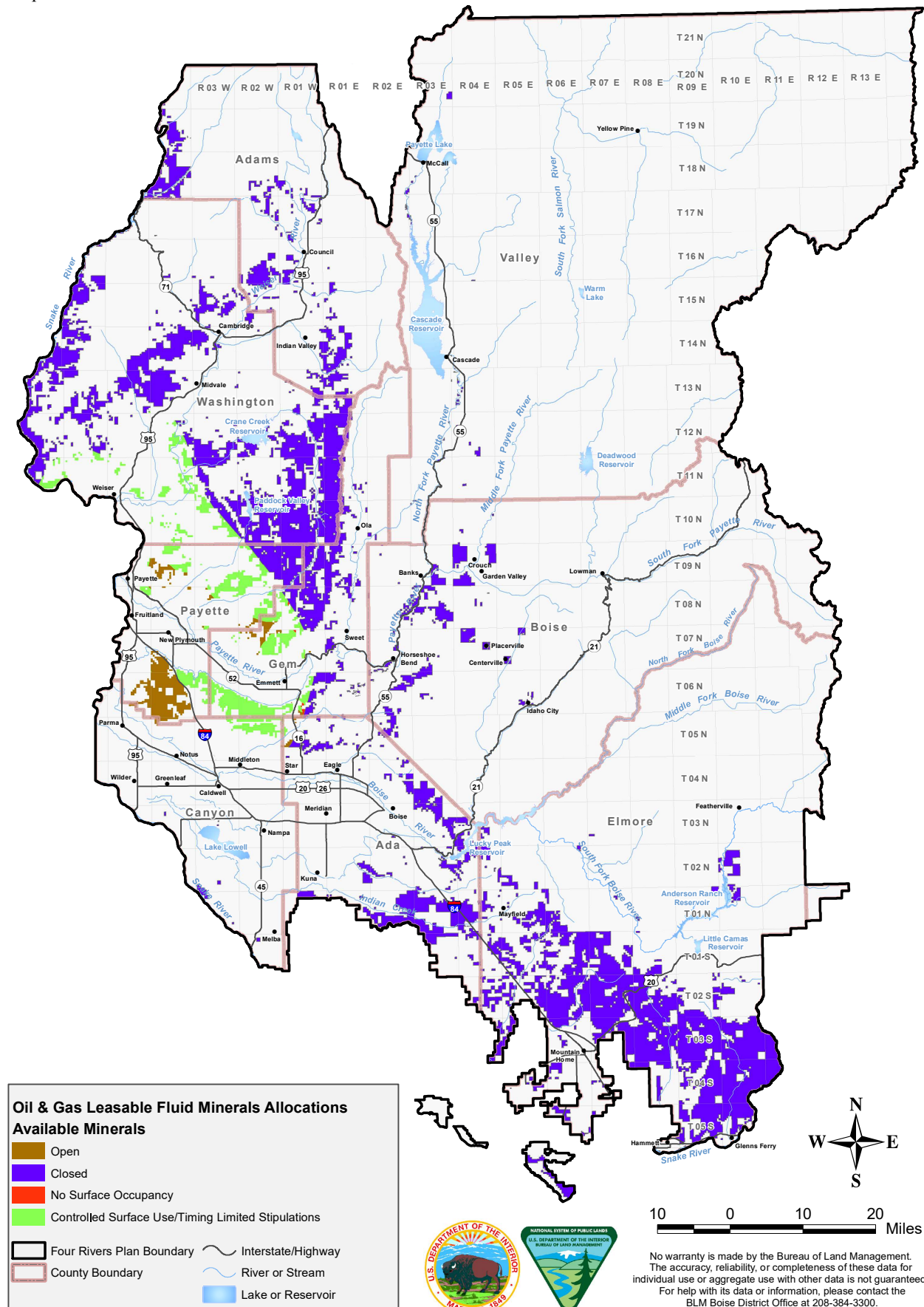
Map 12. Fluid Minerals - Geothermal Allocations



Map 13. Oil and Gas Potential



Map 14. Fluid Minerals - Oil and Gas Allocations - Surface



Oil & Gas Leasable Fluid Minerals Allocations Available Minerals

- Open
- Closed
- No Surface Occupancy
- Controlled Surface Use/Timing Limited Stipulations

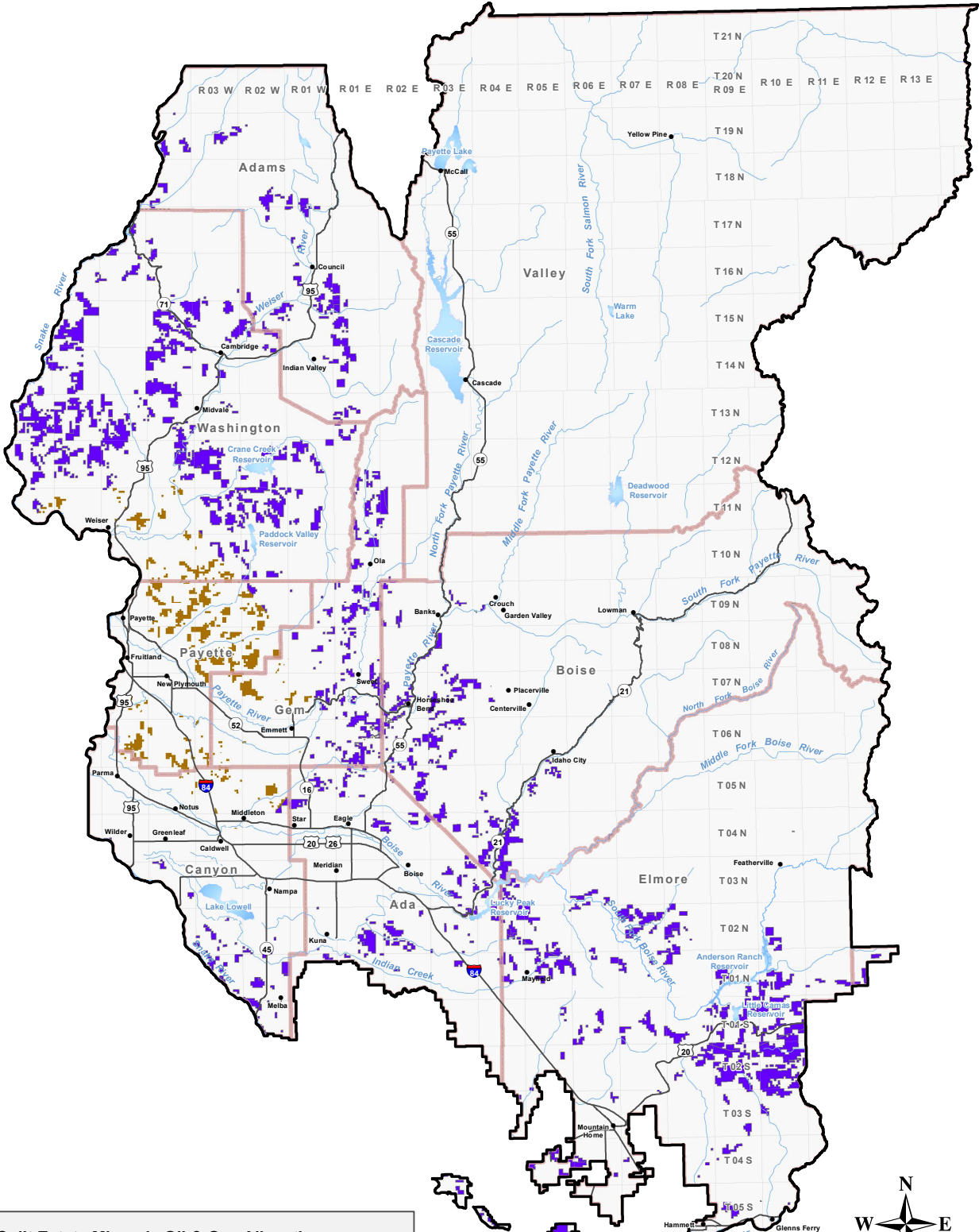
Four Rivers Plan Boundary County Boundary
 Interstate/Highway River or Stream
 Lake or Reservoir

N
W E
S

10 0 10 20 Miles

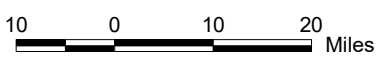
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Map 15. Fluid Minerals - Oil and Gas Allocations - Split Estate



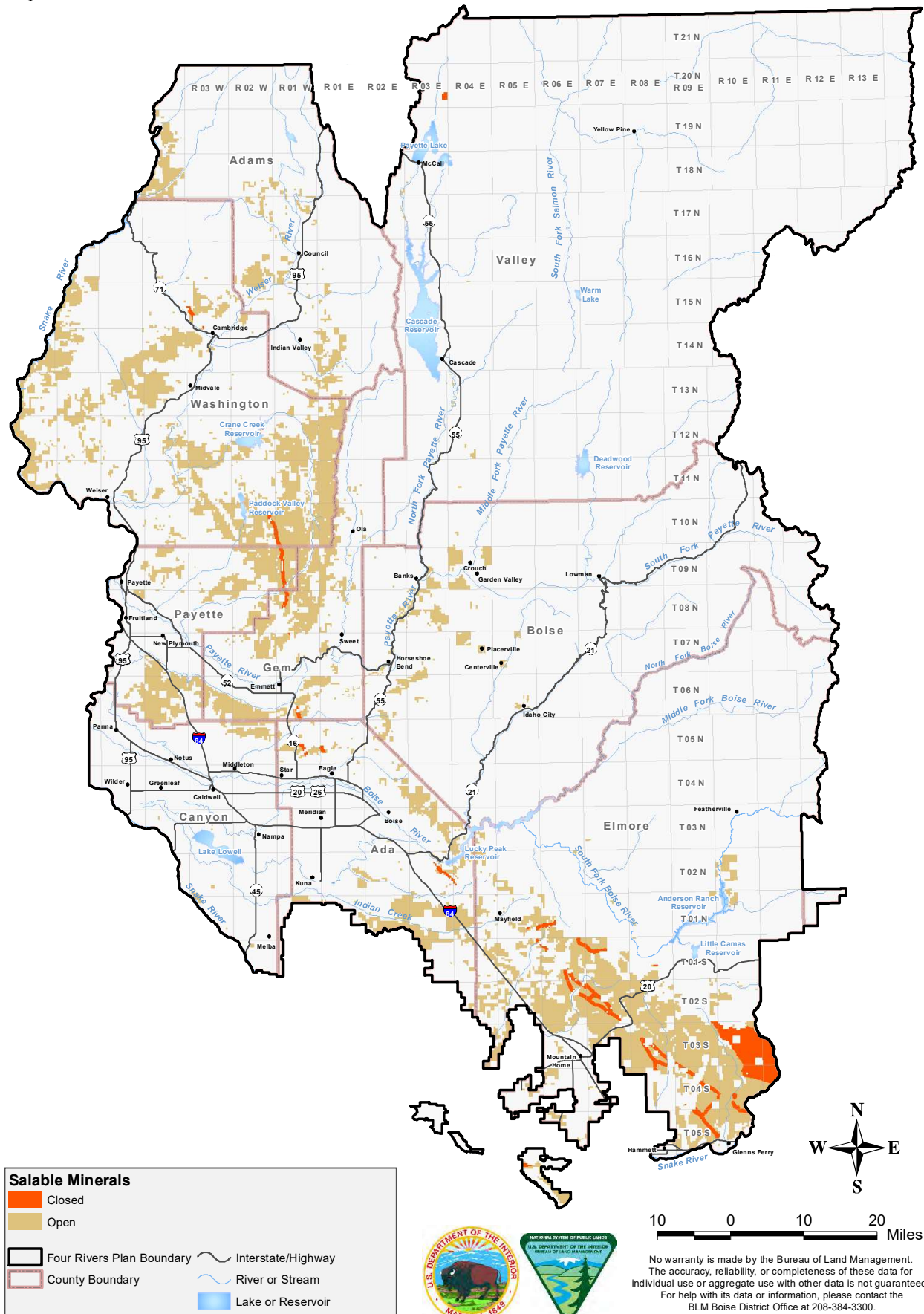
Split Estate Minerals Oil & Gas Allocations

- Open Split Estate
- Closed Split Estate
- Four Rivers Plan Boundary
- County Boundary
- Interstate/Highway
- River or Stream
- Lake or Reservoir

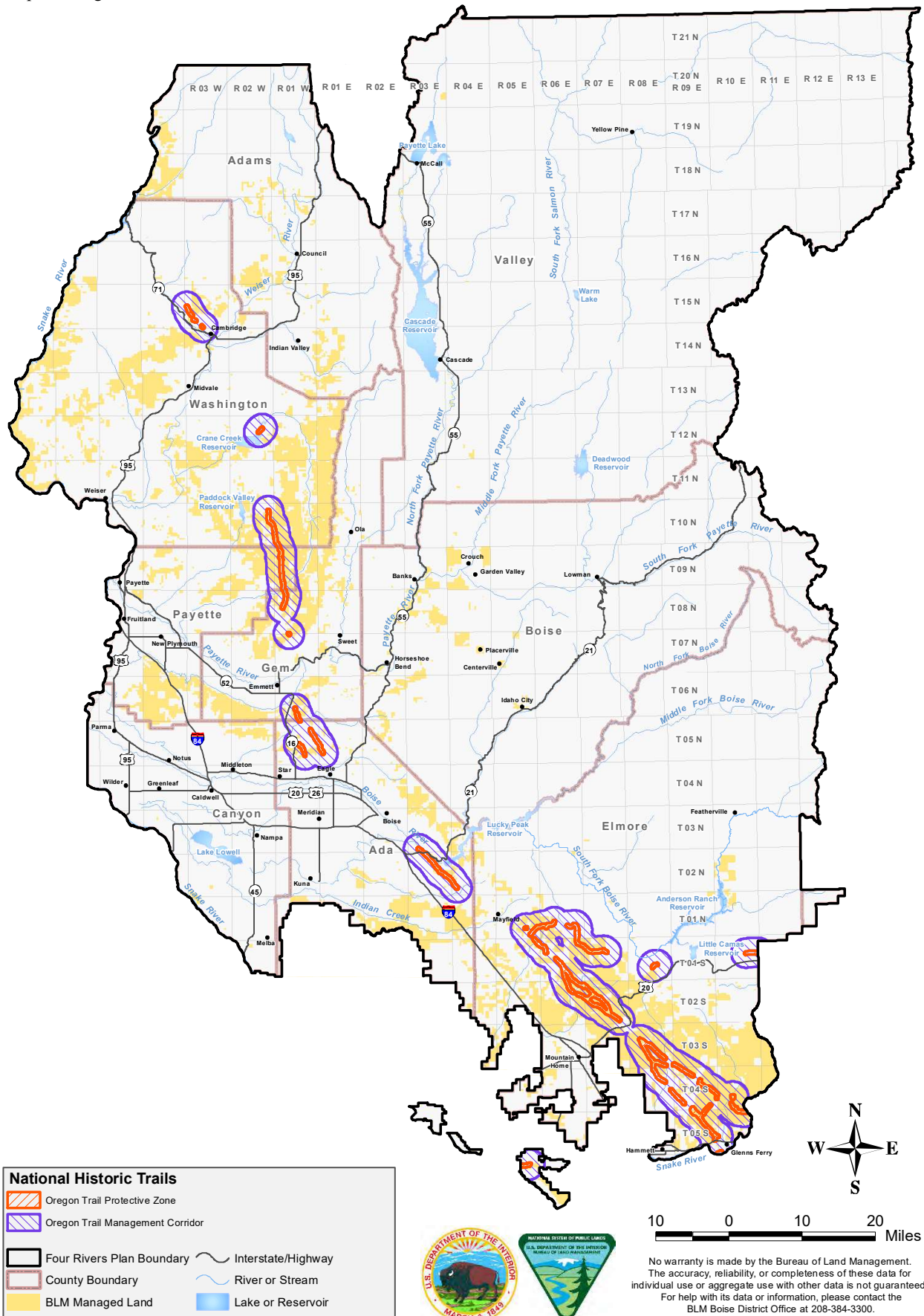


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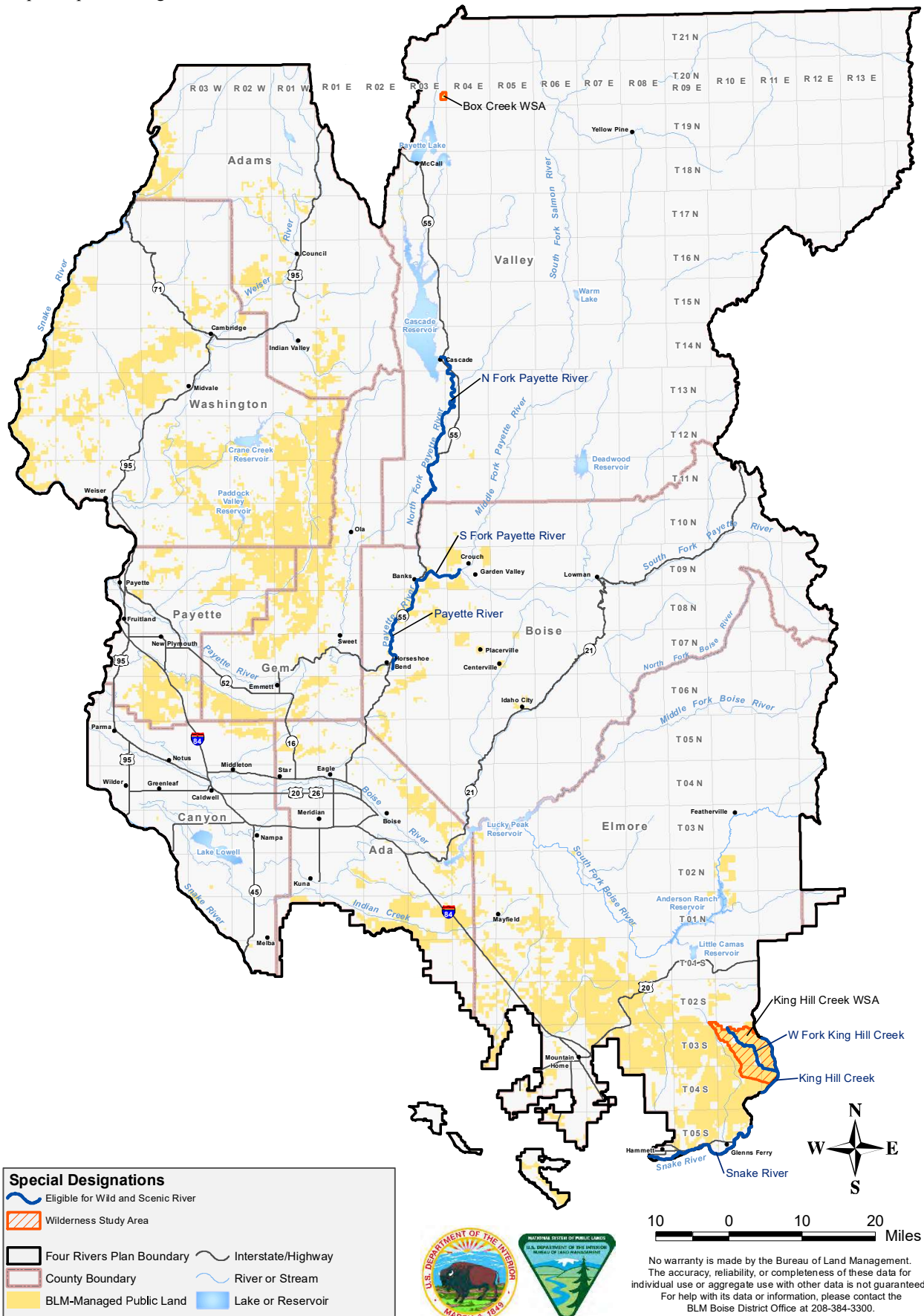
Map 16. Salable Minerals



Map 17. Oregon Trail

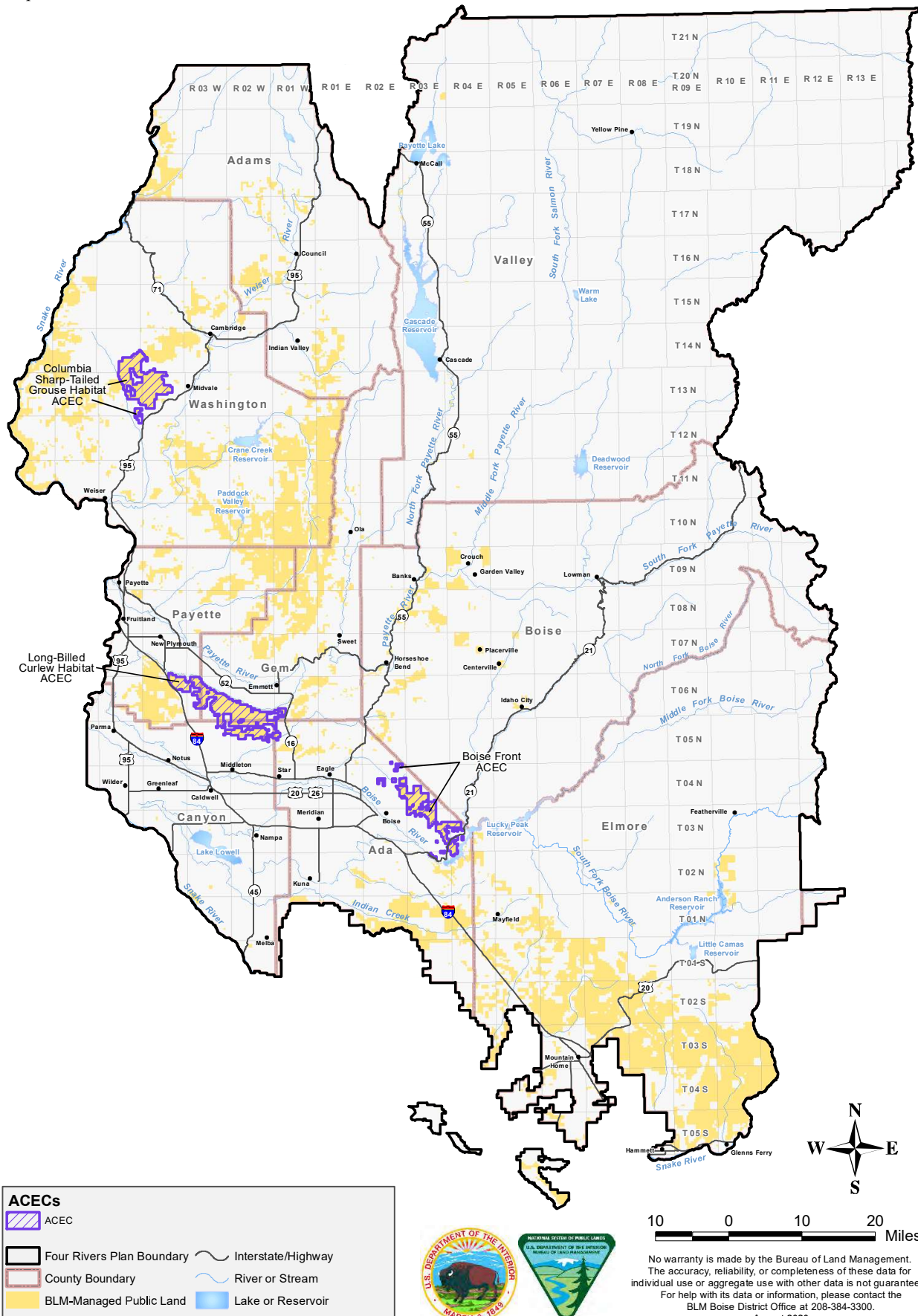


Map 18. Special Designations



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Map 19. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern



Appendix B – Collaboration and Consultation

Appendix B - Collaboration and Consultation

INTERAGENCY AND TRIBAL RELATIONSHIPS

Section 202(c)(9) of FLPMA requires BLM to provide for public involvement of other federal agencies and state and local government officials in developing land use decisions for public lands, including early public notice of proposed decisions that may have a significant impact on lands other than BLM. It also requires, to the extent practical, that BLM keeps itself informed of other Federal, State, and local land use plans; assures that consideration is given to those plans pertinent to the development of BLM land use plan decisions; and assists in resolving inconsistencies between federal and non-federal plans, if possible.

The CEQ regulations require an early and open process for identifying significant issues related to a proposed action and obtaining input from the affected public prior to making a decision that could significantly affect the environment. These regulations specify public involvement at various junctures in the development of an EIS. The BLM designed an iterative review process in order to capture issues from numerous public sources and to satisfy CEQ and FLPMA requirements. These reviews consisted of:

- Interdisciplinary Team (ID Team) product development and internal agency review;
- Issue review from the Resource Advisory Council (RAC);
- Formal government-to-government consultation with Native American Tribes;
- Review and comment from cooperating agencies;
- Review and comment from the general public; and
- ID Team revisions based on this feedback.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

The CEQ defines a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction, by law or special expertise, for proposals covered by NEPA (40 CFR 1501.6). Any Federal, State, or local governmental jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency. Formal cooperating agencies include the State of Idaho, by and through the Idaho Governor’s Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR); U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR); and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service (USFS). Cooperating agencies provided input into the development of alternatives and reviewed preliminary versions of the Draft EIS to identify issues of consistency with other relevant plans.

TRIBES

The United States has a unique legal relationship with Native American Tribal Governments, as set forth in the U.S. Constitution, treaties, statutes, EOs, and court decisions. All federally recognized Tribes have off-reservation interests in public land, and many retain pre-existing rights reserved through treaty or EOs and other relevant mandates. The relationship between federal agencies and sovereign Tribes is defined by numerous laws and regulations addressing the requirement of federal agencies to notify and/or consult with Native American Tribes and to consider their rights and interests when planning and implementing federal undertakings.

The United States government has a trust responsibility to federally-recognized Native American Tribes that covers lands, resources, money, or other assets held by the federal government in trust or restricted against alienation for Native American Tribes and Native American individuals. Additionally, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) must consider and protect off-reservation

treaty-reserved fishing, hunting, gathering, and similar unrelinquished rights of access and resource use on the public lands it administers. This includes rights of access and use for ceremonial and other traditional cultural practices. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation have rights, reserved in the Fort Bridger Treaty of July 3rd, 1868, to hunt, fish, and gather on the unoccupied (i.e., public) lands of the United States. The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation assert aboriginal rights to their traditional homelands as their treaties with the United States were never ratified.

Consultation with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation over the years indicates the presence of a wide range of resources related to Tribal rights and/or interests and ongoing Tribal use in the PA. These include resources associated with hunting, trapping, fishing, and gathering food, medicinal plants, and other natural products; the availability of clean water and healthy plant and animal populations; as well as aboriginal archaeological sites, sacred sites, and traditional cultural properties.

The Four Rivers Field Manager corresponded with the Shoshone-Bannock, Burns Paiute, and Nez Perce Tribes on June 19, 2008, offering government-to-government consultation. Additional information was provided to the Nez Perce Tribe.

Consultation with the Shoshone-Bannock and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes and participation in the planning process began with publication of the Federal Register Notice of Intent (NOI). Throughout the development of this document, the Tribes have played an active role, understanding that this involvement will result in an RMP that provides for better, more responsive land stewardship. The Tribes not only helped identify issues to be addressed, but also helped in the analysis of those issues and development of the Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for the PA. The DFCs are directly responsive to the issues.

Consultation with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes was initially conducted through the Wings and Roots Native American Campfire. The EIS was first discussed at consultation meetings held on June 19, 2008. Since 2008, consultation on the RMP has been conducted on February 16, May 17, and December 5, 2012; March 15 and April 19, 2013; November 16, 2017; March 15, April 19, May 17, July 31, September 20, and October 18, 2018. Starting in 2019, consultation was conducted directly with the Tribal Council on March 21, April 18, July 18, September 19, December 12, 2019; January 16, 2020; February 2, 2023 and March 2, 2023. The following is a statement from the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation that describes RMP consultation and their relationship with the Four Rivers Planning Area:

The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, headquartered at the Duck Valley Reservation, have engaged in an extensive government-to-government consultation with the Bureau of Land Management in a collaborative effort to produce this Four Rivers Management Plan (RMP). It reflects the successful partnering and mandating of our two sovereign nations to identify our respective expectations.

While specific cultural sites are of greatest importance to archaeologists, the tribes use the Four Rivers Planning Area and surrounding region as a whole for activities such as gathering medicinal and food plants, minerals, craft materials, and for hunting antelope, deer, badgers, rabbits, sage hens, bobcats, groundhogs, ants and anthills, birds, elk, mountain sheep, cougars, and a variety of small game.

Because of the Shoshone-Paiute peoples' ancient occupation, the Four Rivers Planning Area is filled with ceremonial, hunting, gathering, teaching, and historical sites as well as resource-gathering areas for food, medicinal plants, and craft materials utilized in their daily lives. For example, ceremonies are conducted at sites in the area where certain tribal members' ancestors lie buried near ancient massacre sites. Ceremonies are also conducted at sites to ensure the health and survival of the wildlife found there. Several buttes and peaks with or without rock alignments, appear to have served as a lookout for early warning of cavalry and militias in former times and/or to monitor game animals' movements, as well as for viewing the arrival and movements of distant family bands or groups as far as 50 miles away.

For the Shoshone-Paiute, the natural world is regarded as part of many sacred cyclical patterns; therefore, words such as "subsistence," "food," "medicine," and "use" have fundamentally and culturally distinct meanings to non-Indians and tribal people. For example, for the Shoshone-Paiute, foods are medicines that have spiritual healing qualities for the body and the spirit, as well as being objects for sacred offerings to spirits.

Beyond relationships of culture, including hunting, gathering, crafts, trade, etc., landscape features are also places of personal communication with the spirits and opportunities for people to enter the sacred and acquire guidance and help. The Shoshone-Paiute relationship to the land connects fundamental symbols and patterns of culture and human relationships by creating an organization that gives geography significance and intelligibility. The more central a geographic place is in the religious life of a group, the more numerous its symbolic representations are likely to be, as we see repeatedly in the culture of the Shoshone-Paiute.

Virtually all aspects of Shoshone-Paiute culture is tied to the land, and any landscape feature can have different meanings and functions as sacred sites as well as sites for hunting, gathering, healing, etc. Just as the land has different functions and meaning, so to do rock structures. Any one rock structure can have a multitude of uses, while a group of structures together may have only one function or meaning. As man-made objects within a multidimensional landscape, rock structures must be carefully investigated as complex cultural artifacts that have complex meanings and functions in the culture and history of the Shoshone-Paiute.

A Tribal ethnography was presented to BLM on January 19, 2011, during consultation for the Four Rivers RMP. The following paragraphs are the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes characterization of the Field Office's affected environment from the Tribal perspective:

The Four Rivers Field Office Resource Area has been a part of the homelands of the Shoshone and Paiute people since time immemorial. The movements of the people were dictated by the resources and the seasons. The weather is milder in the valleys than it is at the higher elevations. As the winter gave to spring many people went to areas in the mountains as the weather got warmer, as fall approached, and the weather began turning colder they returned to the milder climate at the lower elevations. The Boise Valley, Indian Valley, Weiser Valley, and other locations along the Snake, Boise, and Payette Rivers and the tributaries were some of the areas preferred for winter camps.

The annual subsistence cycle began in the spring with some groups going into the mountains for large game and roots while others went to favorite fishing locations on the

rivers and its tributaries in the area (Snake, Boise, and Payette rivers). The mid-summer period was also a time of large intertribal gatherings in areas such as Boise, Weiser, and the Lemhi Country. Fishing, hunting and root digging supported large numbers who came from many directions to enjoy time with friends and relatives and to trade.

Women gathered berries, roots, nuts, seeds, and insects intensively during the spring, summer, and early fall. The people utilized well over 100 different plants for food, medicines, and other purposes such as weaving baskets, winnowing trays, and other containers, tools, and weapons as needed. Large game resources included elk, deer, antelope, moose, mountain sheep, and bear.

Late fall was a time of intensive preparation for winter; meats and various plant foods were cached in protected, well drained locations for use during winter months. When necessary, some winter hunting was conducted, but in general the period from December through February was one of limited hunting and gathering. Shoshone-Paiute fishing implements include spears, harpoons, traps, dip nets, seines (large, weighted nets), and weirs. Three major anadromous fish runs took place during the season beginning in the spring through fall. Two of these were Chinook salmon runs, and another of Steel head trout. Other species of fish regularly taken include the three-tooth lamprey, Columbia River sturgeon, cutthroat trout, and Rocky Mountain whitefish. Twined conical baskets normally used for gathering seeds were sometimes used for catching fish from small streams.

Fish weirs and traps were limited primarily to locations on the Snake River, and the community usually cooperated in their construction and use. There was also communal net hunting for antelope, rabbits, and certain waterfowl. Water fowl were killed with clubs or by wringing the neck. Snares and spring-pole traps were also used for birds and small game. Deadfalls, pitfalls, decoys, and blinds were used to take game as well.

Rodents were smoked out or extracted from their burrows with the aid of a "rodent skewer," a long thin pole that was twisted into the animal's skin.

Both wooden and horn bows were backed with sinew; while knives and arrow tips were made of stone; bone was used for salmon spears, awls, and other small tools. Other utensils were made primarily from bison and mountain sheep horn or basketry.

Conical carrying baskets were used to transport different types of seeds. Twined basketry seed beaters or sharp wood and bone seed knives were used to knock the ripened seeds into baskets. Foods were transported in woven sagebrush bark baskets; pack straps of skin and vegetable fibers supported the bark baskets.

Pitch-lined water storage containers were used widely. Although most basketry was twilled, occasionally coiled samples were seen.

Food was stone boiled in baskets covered with rawhide. Seeds were pounded and roasted in willow trays and chokecherries were mashed and sun-dried, while camas and similar tuberous roots were baked in earth ovens and formed into sun-dried loafs.

Contact between the explorers and Shoshone-Paiute

The journals of explorers and trappers, such as Lewis and Clark (1804 -1806), the British North West Company (1807 -1809), and the American Pacific Fur Company (1810), are some of the earliest written records of contact between the Shoshone-Paiute people and

the non-Indians. These accounts are valuable for their recording of the fierce competition between the British and American trading companies which resulted in severe degradation of the environment. Beaver were nearly trapped to extinction by the British in order to deter competing American companies. Bison vanished from southern Idaho; otter and other fur-bearing animals also severely declined. This severely impoverished the Tribes and strained relations with the immigrants.

The first settlers reached the Boise Valley in 1836 and by the early 1840s migration increased along the Oregon Trail, eventually bringing more than 18,000 people and some 50,000 animals through southern Idaho between 1842 and 1852. This resulted in the depletion of grass, game, and other resources. Hunters from wagon trains eliminated big game for as far as 50 miles on either side of the trails.

Gold was discovered in the Boise Basin in 1862, resulting in the gold rush in Idaho. Miners, prospectors, settlers, and others flocked into the area. Displacement of the Native American Indians began full scale where Indian lives, rights, and properties were disregarded as the whites encroached onto Indian lands, creating conflicts.

Fort Boise was established in 1863 by the U.S. Government and manned by cavalry troops, for the protection of immigrants. The increased desire for Indian lands and hostile attitudes of settlers led to demands that the Indians be removed from their homelands.

The Indian people in the Boise area were forcefully relocated to the present location of Arrowrock Dam, there was much hardship and sickness, and many people died.

Boise Valley Treaty, October 10, 1864

Caleb Lyons (Governor of the Idaho Territory and Superintendent of Indian Affairs) signed a treaty with the Boise Shoshone who agreed to relinquish the Boise Basin, and some adjacent lands in return for an undetermined sum of money and a parcel of land in the vicinity for a reservation. The Indians complied with the terms of the treaty and relinquished lands and ceased hostilities. However, the U.S. Senate failed to ratify the treaty and the Indians did not receive what was promised. Caleb Lyons suffered severe personal ridicule and life threats from white settlers because of his policy of dealing justly and fairly with the Indian people.

Bruneau Valley Treaty, April 10, 1866

Caleb Lyons signed a treaty with the Bruneau Shoshone in order to obtain an important mining region around Silver City in the Owyhee Mountains. Some lands near the Snake River was also ceded to the U.S.; much of the extensive Bruneau Shoshone land holdings were designated as a reservation. Again, the Indians complied with the terms of the treaty, and again, the United States Senate failed to ratify the treaty.

Terror at Camas Prairie (Bannock War)

The Bannock War of 1878 began in a camp in the forbidding lavas a few miles away from Camas Prairie where Buffalo Horn led his war party on a campaign that lasted several months and killed at least 40 soldiers and civilians and spread terror in several states. Causes of the war were rooted in many factors. The immediate spark was the rooting of hogs that destroyed the camas crop at Camas Prairie. This took place even though the Indians objected strenuously to the running of pigs by settlers on fields where Indians had for years dug for camas as a staple of their diet. The U.S. Government promised to provide

the Indians with provisions if they moved to the reservations. Very little was actually provided to the people; they were starving, and many had to return to their historical gathering areas to find food. Most of the provisions were taken by crooked Indian agents that sold the food. Following their surrender in Weiser Idaho, all Indian people, whether they participated in the hostilities or not, were rounded up by Gen. Howard and Gen. Miles with the aid of Sarah Winnemucca and were herded like cattle in the dead of winter to Yakima. Over 550 people were driven to Yakima with over 1000 head of horses. Less than 200 returned to their homeland after being held as prisoners of war for five years, with less than 100 head of horses. Following their release, some went in search of family members and relatives and eventually ended up living on several reservations such as Warm Springs OR, Burns OR, Fort McDermitt, and Fort Hall. Others returned to their homelands in southern Idaho and the Owyhee Canyonlands and now reside on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

Contemporary Shoshone-Paiute people continue to visit sacred sites, conduct ceremonies, and to harvest resources throughout the area. Modern day Indian tribes are living cultures who still practice their traditions and culture. The lithic scatters and rock structures and alignments are resources which must be protected and preserved for contemporary and ongoing use by tribal members and future generations.

Vine Deloria is the belief in the sacredness of lands, and when viewed in the Indian context, is an integral part of the experiences of the people past, present, and future. Indians who have never visited certain sacred sites nevertheless know of these places from community knowledge, and they attribute this knowing to be an essential part of their being. Every identifiable region has sacred places specific to its geography. Their sacredness does not depend on human occupancy but on stories that describe the revelation that enabled their people to experience the holiness there. Sacred places are the foundation of all other beliefs and practices because they represent the presence of the sacred in our lives. They properly inform us that we are not larger than nature and that we have responsibilities to the rest of the natural world that transcend our own desires and wishes.

The BLM met with the Natural Resources staff for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe to discuss the RMP for the first time on August 19, 2008 to discuss areas of Tribal interest and have continued to collaborate throughout the planning process in October 6, 2016; May 17 and December 7, 2017; June 14 and October 11, 2018; and August 2 and October 3, 2019. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have developed position statements for developed campgrounds on federal lands, for management of Snake River Basin resources, and transfer of federal lands. The policy statements are listed below:

Policy Statement Regarding Developed Campgrounds: The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes exercise inherent and reserved treaty rights within their own authorities and responsibilities. Federal Land Developed Campground fees, reservation systems, and any other fee-based campground services shall not apply to the enrolled members of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, in accordance with Article IV of the Fort Bridger Treaty, on all unoccupied lands of the United States. The treaty does not state, nor was it the intent of our leaders at the time of signing of the treaty, to impose or restrict Tribal members from exercising off-reservation rights to hunt, fish and gather, and the corresponding right to camp. Federal permitting requirements are contrary to the rights reserved by the Tribes in the Fort Bridger Treaty.

Policy for Management of Snake River Basin Resources: The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes will pursue, promote, and where necessary, initiate efforts to restore the Snake River systems and affected unoccupied lands to a natural condition. This includes the restoration of component resources to conditions which most closely represents the ecological features associated with a natural riverine ecosystem. In addition, the Tribes will work to ensure the protection, preservation, and where appropriate, the enhancement of rights reserved by the Tribes under the Fort Bridger Treaty of 1868 and any inherent aboriginal rights.

Position Regarding the Transfer of Federal Lands: The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes set forth the following position concerning any deposition, sale, or transfer of federal lands, use rights or other rights in lands that may affect the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' treaty rights as guaranteed by the Fort Bridger Treaty, and subsequent cession agreements. The Tribes oppose any federal land disposition, sales, or transfers to private entities or state and local governments based on two fundamental reasons. First, the United States government entered into a solemn treaty with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal peoples in which the Tribes reserved certain off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights which they continue to exercise on unoccupied lands of the United States. Subsequent to the Fort Bridger Treaty, the Tribes ceded certain lands to the United States and reserved in the cession agreements certain communal rights for grazing and use of the public lands. Second, the United States, including its federal agencies, have a trust responsibility as established in the Fort Bridger Treaty and other federal laws, policies, and EOs to protect and preserve the rights of Indian Tribes, and to consult with the Tribes prior to such land sales or transfers.

Treaty Guaranteed Rights: The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have reserved rights based on the Treaty of Fort Bridger. In the treaty negotiations, the Tribal leaders made it clear that they wished to continue to fish for salmon, hunt buffalo and elk, and gather the plants, medicines, and other cultural resources in their aboriginal areas within the United States, including but not limited to the present states of Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Nevada, and Montana. The Tribes ceded millions of acres of their aboriginal homelands in return for a much smaller Reservation known as the Fort Hall Reservation. Accordingly, the Tribes in the treaty reserved certain off-Reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights which they continue to exercise on unoccupied lands. These reserved treaty rights have been recognized and confirmed by the Idaho Supreme Court.

The Nez Perce Tribe have reserved rights based on the Stevens Treaty which contains similar language as the Treaty of Fort Bridger but goes on to say that the exclusive right of taking fish in all the streams running through or bordering the Reservation is secured. As is also the right of taking fish at all usual and accustomed places in common with citizens of the territory, and of erecting temporary buildings for curing, together with the privilege of hunting, gathering, and pasturing horses and cattle upon open and unclaimed land.

Following the Fort Bridger Treaty of 1868, the United States sought further land cessions from the Tribes in the late 1880s. Under these cession agreements the Tribes reserved grazing and gathering rights on public or unoccupied lands. Today, Tribal members continue to graze their livestock on federal lands, and gather firewood, posts, poles, food, and medicinal plants for traditional practices.

The disposition, sale, or transfer of federal lands to a private entity or state and local governments adversely impacts the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes guaranteed off-reservation treaty rights by diminishing the locations and access to areas where Tribal members exercise treaty rights. Tribal members, whose ancestors hunted, fished, or gathered on aboriginal lands for thousands of years,

are forced to relocate to other areas or cease the exercise of such treaty guaranteed rights. Tribal members' grazing areas are also reduced by land transfers, depositions, or sales, and access for gathering may be severely limited. The transfer, patent, or outright purchase of federal lands, and the extension of leases for mining on federal lands by private businesses enables them to control access and use, which jeopardize access to certain Shoshone-Bannock traditional fishing, hunting and gathering areas, and grazing and plant material use.

Federal Trust Responsibility: It is well established that the United States has a solemn trust obligation to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. Under this obligation, the United States has a special fiduciary responsibility to consider the best interests of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes pursuant to the Fort Bridger Treaty. The United States assumed this responsibility when it entered into the treaty with the Tribes. Today, most fundamentally, the modern form of the trust obligation is the federal government's duty to protect Tribal lands and treaty resources, including the off-reservation rights the Tribes reserved. This duty to protect treaty resources includes preserving the integrity of lands upon which the resources are located.

The cultural resources located on many off-reservation lands are essential to the culture and traditions of the Tribes. Importantly, these resources provide subsistence to a majority of Tribal families residing on the Fort Hall Reservation. Loss of the aboriginal lands because of federal land depositions, sale, or transfers to private businesses and non-Federal Government agencies may be devastating to the Tribes and lead to irreversible cultural extinction of traditional practices. Loss of Tribal culture and traditions occur because Tribal identity depends heavily upon the socio-cultural ties that link individuals, families, and groups to specific traditional and aboriginal territories and lands. The reservation of these aboriginal areas for hunting, gathering, and fishing were contemplated by the Tribal leaders and reserved in the Fort Bridger Treaty. Accordingly, elimination of the federal lands through transfers severely impacts the subsistence food sources for Tribal members, severs the family and cultural ties to certain traditional lands, and restricts the use of cultural resources which are not found on the Fort Hall Reservation.

The federal trust obligations require a federal agency to carefully consider and investigate the effects of its actions on Tribal interests and assess its obligation to Tribes. The Tribes must not be treated like merely citizens; instead, the federal land management agencies owe a duty to preserve and protect the Tribal resources by diligently discussing and considering the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal interests through consultation with the Tribes concerning any consideration of a transfer of lands located within the Tribes' aboriginal areas. Proposed land depositions, sales, or transfers must consider appropriate mitigations to address reserved treaty rights, cultural resource laws, and Tribal policy. Consultation is required by numerous federal laws, including EO 12875 (1993), 13007 (1996), 13084 (1998), and 13175 (2000).

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes oppose any federal land depositions, sales, or transfers that may adversely impact natural and cultural resources and/or reserved treaty rights of hunting, fishing, and gathering on unoccupied lands of the United States. We certainly welcome the opportunity to work with any federal agency in transferring any federal lands to the Shoshone Bannock Tribes to ensure the Tribes' treaty rights are secured for future generations.

OTHER STAKEHOLDER RELATIONSHIPS

The Resource Advisory Council (RAC) was a 15-member advisory panel that provided advice and recommendations to BLM on resource and land management issues. Membership included a cross section of Idahoans representing energy, tourism, and commercial

recreation; environmental, archaeological, or historic interests; as well as elected officials, a Tribal representative, and the public-at-large. Council members were selected for their ability to provide informed, objective advice on a broad array of public land issues, and their commitment to collaboration in seeking solutions to those issues. Input from the RAC was sought at key points in the planning process.

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Table B-1. List of Preparers

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Appendix C – Standard Operating Procedures

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This appendix identifies best management practices (BMPs), design features, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) that, when applied with management actions in the ROD/RMP, will aid in achieving goals and objectives.

While the overall vision embraces the use of these BMPs, design features, and SOPs to reduce or minimize impacts, they are not to be considered a land use plan decision. They are dynamic and may be updated or modified based on future guidance, policy, and science without a plan amendment. BMPs, design features, and SOPs used in site-specific situations will be incorporated into the proposed action or used as mitigation measures to reduce impacts. The determination of which BMPs, design features, and SOPs to apply will be made during individual project planning. The use of BMPs, design features, or SOPs will be analyzed through the NEPA process for site-specific projects.

The BMPs, design features, and SOPs are categorized by resource use or activity. Since BMPs, design features, or SOPs from programmatic Records of Decision are included, some are listed more than once. New information could result in BMPs being modified or added to reduce or mitigate impacts. In accordance with CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.20) the hierarchy for mitigation of impacts is: (1) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (2) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (3) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (4) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; (5) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- BLM management of cultural resources is guided by laws, EOs, regulations, and policies. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, directs federal agencies to provide leadership in the protection and preservation of prehistoric and historic cultural properties that have been determined eligible for listing or are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Section 106 of the NHPA directs federal agencies to consider the effects of agency and agency-approved actions that could affect significant archaeological and historic properties through a process of inventory, evaluation and effects analysis, and consultation with Native American Tribes, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and interested members of the public. Section 110 directs agencies to establish programs to inventory, evaluate, and nominate sites to the NRHP, and to protect, preserve, manage, and maintain cultural properties.
- All actions will follow all applicable laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to the preservation and protection of cultural resources.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- Paleontological resources will be located, protected, and managed for their scientific, educational, and recreational values.

VEGETATION

- Mechanical impacts on the soil surface will be minimized through proper timing (after spring wet period) and duration; for type of authorized use; and with regard to soil type, moisture content, and biological soil crust vulnerability.

- If prescribed fire is used in sage-grouse habitat, the NEPA analysis for the Burn Plan will address:
 - Why alternative techniques were not selected as viable options;
 - How sage-grouse management goals and objectives will be met by its use;
 - How the Conservation Objectives Team (COT) Report objectives will be addressed and met; and
 - A risk assessment to address how potential threats to sage-grouse habitat will be minimized.
- Allow prescribed fire as a vegetation or fuels treatment in sagebrush-steppe sites, or in areas with a potential for post-fire exotic annual dominance only after the NEPA analysis for the Burn Plan has addressed the four bullets outlined above.
- Allow prescribed fire in known sage-grouse winter range only after the NEPA analysis for the Burn Plan has addressed the four bullets outlined above. Any prescribed fire in winter habitat will need to be designed to strategically reduce wildfire risk around and/or in the winter range and designed to protect winter range habitat quality.
- Vegetation treatments must be consistent with the most current BLM management policy or guidance.
- Prioritize management of newly discovered noxious and invasive weeds infestations. Treatments should focus on treating new, small populations before they become established.
- All herbicides must be applied with strict adherence to label stipulations and Boise District policy.
- During project-level planning, the sensitivity of soil resources will be considered in the affected area on a site-specific basis.
- Develop and implement an erosion control strategy for new land use authorizations, special recreation permits and mineral exploration/development involving surface disturbance on slopes greater than 25 percent and/or soils with severe or very severe potential for wind erosion or with high potential for water erosion.
- Mitigate impacts of management and authorized uses on soils with severe or very severe potential for wind erosion and/or high potential for water erosion.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

- When developing implementation projects, identify areas with historic vegetation conditions (reference conditions) and maintain conditions that will protect that value.
- Implement guidelines for habitat improvement and protection of migratory birds according to United State Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) habitat restoration and species conservation plans.
- Priority for habitat improvement or maintenance will be given to threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. In accordance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the USFWS will be consulted on any action that may affect a federally listed, proposed, or candidate species. Proposed actions which may adversely affect sensitive species will be modified to avoid adverse impacts or will apply mitigation.
- Cap pipes and cover or seal all small, dark spaces where birds may enter and become trapped. Caps will be placed on all open fence and mining claims where and when they are found.
- Use the least toxic herbicide that will accomplish the desired condition. Do not exceed application rates recommended in the *2007 and 2016 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements for Using Herbicides on BLM lands in 17 Western States* (USDOI BLM 2007 &

USDOI BLM 2016a)

- Post-use monitoring for trampling in slick spots within slickspot peppergrass element occurrences (EOs) may be done in conjunction with utilization compliance checks.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

- The BLM will coordinate its activities and actions with IDFG, as appropriate.
- Habitat management for migratory bird species of conservation concern will emphasize avoiding or minimizing negative impacts and restoring and enhancing habitat quality to implement EO 13186 (EOP 2001).
- Adverse impacts on migratory bird habitats will be avoided, reduced, or mitigated in a manner consistent with current regional or statewide bird conservation priorities.
- Through the transportation and travel management planning process, address important wildlife habitat values including key Sage-grouse breeding habitat (Idaho EO NO. 2015-04 (Office of the Governor, 2015)) and big game parturition and winter habitats (Idaho Mule Deer Initiative, establish 2004).
- Field office staff will coordinate with IDFG and/or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel on an annual basis to assess disease transmission risk for domestic sheep allotments. Implement best management practices to achieve separation of domestic sheep and bighorn sheep consistent with the most recent IDFG Bighorn Sheep Management Plans.

AQUATIC RESOURCES

- Implementation of water resource objectives and maintenance or improvement of existing water quality will continue. Public lands adjacent to stream segments that are not meeting State of Idaho water quality standards and/or Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) will be managed to produce an upward trend in the structure and composition of key riparian/wetland vegetation, as well as the desired physical characteristics of the stream channel.
- Mechanical impacts on the soil surface will be minimized through proper timing (after spring wet period) and duration; for type of authorized use; and with regard to soil type, moisture content, and biological soil crust vulnerability.
- Vegetation treatments will be consistent with the most current BLM management policy or guidance.
- All herbicides will be applied with strict adherence to label stipulations and Boise District policy.
- Stream herbicide application buffers will be applied according to the following minimum distances: 15 feet (hand application), 25 feet (vehicle application), or 100 feet (aerial application).
- Address emergency needs in watersheds due to flooding or wildland fire.

WILDFIRE ECOLOGY AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

- All public land fires will be suppressed using a response guided by the objectives and strategies outlined in the Boise District Fire Management Plan (FMP) (USDOI BLM 2005) or similar successor guidance.
- Fires in Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) will be managed in accordance with BLM Manual 6330 - Management of Wilderness Study Areas (USDOI BLM 1969) or similar successor guidance.
- Fire lines will be re-contoured/seeded/water-barred if necessary. Use vegetation (native and/or nonnative) based on probability of success for restoration and rehabilitation activities. Non-

native species and cultivars that are considered transitional or noninvasive may be used to achieve site stabilization, fuel breaks, or invasive plant control. species/water-barred if necessary.

AIR QUALITY

- Implement mitigation measures within BLM’s authority to reduce emissions from current levels in the planning area and work cooperatively to encourage all permittees to adopt measures to reduce emissions.
- Work cooperatively with stakeholders to reduce cumulative dust emissions and address other air quality concerns.
- Dust abatement techniques shall be used on unpaved, un-vegetated surfaces to minimize airborne dust.
- Speed limits (e.g., 25 mph [40 kilometer(km)/h]) shall be posted and enforced to reduce airborne fugitive dust.
- Construction materials and stockpiled soils shall be covered if they are a source of fugitive dust.
- Dust abatement techniques shall be used before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.
- An approved burn plan that includes information and techniques to reduce or alter smoke emission levels will be in place prior to implementing any prescribed burn.
- Suggested minimum air pollution controls for gas well operations include:
 - A. Tier II or better drilling rig engines;
 - B. Stationary internal combustion engine standard of two grams NO_x/breakhorse power per hour (bhp/hr) for engines under 300 horsepower (HP) and one gram NO_x/bhp-hr for engines above 300 HP;
 - C. Low bleed or no bleed pneumatic pump valves;
 - D. Dehydrator Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) emission controls to +95 percent efficiency; and
 - E. Tank VOCs emission controls to +95 percent efficiency.

VISUAL RESOURCES

- All proposals to develop public land or construct improvements will be evaluated to ensure compliance with visual resource management (VRM) classifications.

FORESTRY

- Wildlife habitat will be protected in forested areas where projects are proposed using sensitive species surveys, timing restrictions, timber harvest boundaries, and harvest methods. Thin-from-below methods and minimize or eliminate clear cuts and road construction to reduce fragmentation.
- Utilize existing roads to the extent possible within special status species key habitat and corridors. Minimize or eliminate clear cuts and road construction to reduce fragmentation. Utilize existing roads to the extent possible within special status species key habitat and corridors.
- Tractor and tractor/jammer will be the predominant logging system employed. Skyline and helicopter logging will be employed on steep slopes, fragile/erosive soils, unique/sensitive habitats, and inaccessible forest stands. Due to the wide variability within each of these individual characteristics, use of skyline and helicopter will be determined by the project

specific analysis.

- Maintain adequate snags across the landscape to provide habitat for cavity nesting birds and other snag-dependent species. Strive for an average minimum of two snags per acre, of the greatest diameter available. Provide green trees near snags for perches and cover. Strive for an average minimum of two disease-free green trees per acre among the largest diameter class available to provide for snag recruitment. Maintain sufficient coarse woody debris to provide for habitat of ground dwelling animals and nutrient recycling. Strive for a range of 5 to 10 tons per acre of coarse woody debris of various decomposition classes per acre, with the majority being in the 1,000-hour fuel category. Where fuel loading is of serious concern, strive for two to five tons per acre, with the majority being in the 1,000-hour fuel category.
- Stringers of trees will be used as sight barriers between cutting areas and will be determined on a site-specific basis.
- Forest management projects shall provide adequate hiding and thermal cover along major roads.
- After wildfires, timber salvage harvest may be performed following site-specific analysis. Site specific analysis will weigh the positive economic/social and fire hazard mitigation effects against potential negative effects to other resource values.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING

- Grazing permits will be revised or developed where evaluations show that the Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management are not being met and livestock grazing is a causal factor.
- Grazing in areas that might contain sensitive, threatened, or endangered species will be managed under applicable Conservation Agreement(s).

Temporary Non-Renewable Use (TNR)

- An application for TNR will not be approved if a permittee fails to comply with the Terms and Conditions of an applicable BLM grazing authorization(s) during the grazing season in which the application was made. TNR should not be approved until such time as all Terms and Conditions of a permittees' authorization have been adhered to.
- TNR should only be approved if:
 - The area does not include lands managed under special designations such as wilderness, WSAs, or administratively suitable or designated wild and scenic rivers (WSRs);
 - The area does not include riparian communities where a PFC assessment is functional-at-risk (FAR) with a static or downward trend or nonfunctional, or similar outcomes of other approved riparian assessment techniques, due to livestock grazing;
 - The pasture is not scheduled to be rested during the subject grazing year;
 - There are no pastures or portions of the allotment that were over utilized by the applicant in the same year as the TNR application; and
 - The applicant has not had a willful or repeated willful trespass within three years prior to the application.

Percent Public Land on Grazing Authorizations

- BLM animal unit months (AUMs) on grazing authorizations are calculated using livestock numbers, number of grazing days (within specific calendar dates) and Percent Public Land. Percent Public Land is used in the calculation because grazing on BLM allotments often incorporates unfenced acres of non-public lands which are owned or controlled by the grazing permittee. In essence, the Percent Public Land calculation gives a permittee credit for forage

being used on the non-public lands and can result in an increase in permitted livestock numbers. Should the non-public lands (private, State Lands) within an allotment be fenced out or otherwise acquired by a third party through lease or change in ownership such that the permittee no longer owns or controls them in conjunction with the public lands, the Percent Public Land should be changed to reflect an increase in the ratio of public to non-public lands acreage (which will decrease the number of livestock permitted) and a new permit issued to reflect the administrative change. Conversely, if a permittee gains ownership or control of non-public unfenced lands within an allotment, the Percent Public Land should be changed to reflect a decrease in the ratio of public to non-public lands acreage (which will increase the number of livestock permitted) and a new authorization will be issued to reflect the administrative change. No changes to BLM Active AUMs on an authorization should occur when making these adjustments.

Management of Lands Not Under the Jurisdiction of the BLM

- When it is mutually beneficial to both the BLM and another land managing agency for BLM to manage the lands within an allotment, an agreement will be entered into by both parties. The agreement must include how grazing fees will be applied, who will collect the grazing fees, how those fees will be distributed, and under which agency's administrative and resource management rules and/or regulations the lands will be administered.

Forage Allocation on Newly Acquired Lands

- Forage allocation for newly acquired lands should consider physical suitability of lands for grazing, Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs), Rangeland Health Assessments, neighboring/similar allotment stocking rates and management, forage production sampling (if economically feasible), and compatibility with other resources.

Trailing/Crossing

- All applicable Terms and Conditions listed in the "Four Rivers Field Office Livestock Trailing Environmental Assessment" should be included on newly issued crossing permits. Additional Terms and Conditions not found in this environmental assessment will be added to new crossing permits, as necessary.

Reserve Common Allotments

- When a reserve common allotment (RCA) is established, a management plan will be developed concurrent with the creation of the RCA to ensure maintenance of or movement towards meeting Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management. Prior to making an RCA available for application, considerations for selecting areas as RCAs include whether the area has special management concerns, such as habitat for Type 1 BLM sensitive species, slickspot peppergrass, or redband trout; noxious weeds/invasive plants; wild horses; whether the area has intermingled private or state lands; and whether the area can sustain grazing use without significant resource impacts.
- Priority order for using reserve common allotments will be as follows:
 - Permittees within the FRFO Planning Area will have the highest priority for using reserve common allotments, permittees within the Boise District Field Offices will have second priority (as determined by the District Manager), and other District permittees will have third priority;
 - Permittees and lessees whose normally permitted allotments are under an approved vegetation treatment project (e.g., restoration, fuels treatments) and they are unable to make

- use of their permitted AUMs during the treatment period;
- Permittees and lessees whose normally permitted allotments are temporarily unavailable due to wildland fire; and
- Permittees and lessees whose normally permitted allotments are temporarily unavailable due to insect outbreaks.

Range Improvements

- Supplements, salt, minerals, new troughs, reservoirs, storage tanks, holding facilities etc., will be strategically located to avoid conflicts with cultural resources, and are at least 300 feet from canyon rims and playas.
- Surface-disturbing activities associated with project implementation will be held to the minimum necessary to complete the project. Disturbed soil will be rehabilitated to blend into surrounding soil surfaces and vegetated as needed with adapted perennial species to stabilize soils and preclude invasion and dominance by undesirable and weedy species.
- All seedings and plantings (including those areas rehabilitated following wildland fire), will be deferred from livestock grazing until site specific Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) or restoration plan resource objects (natural recovery) are met or the seeding/planting has been determined to be unsuccessful. Seedlings should be established and have adequate health and vigor to survive grazing use.
- The existing road and trail system will be utilized to provide access for rangeland project construction and maintenance. Unimproved trails and tracks may be developed to reach construction sites unless this action is inconsistent with the management of Special Management Areas/Designations. Any new authorized road construction will be in accordance with standard operating procedures and BMPs for road construction.
- Pipelines, including stock tanks, supply lines, spring boxes, and protective fences, will be maintained and repaired as necessary to retain their functioning condition for stock-watering purposes.

Reservoirs

- Pits will be constructed in playas, dry lake-beds, and other natural depressions. Dams will be constructed in drainages. Water storage capacity of pits or reservoirs will generally be less than two acre-feet. Reservoirs and pits may be excluded from livestock use through fencing or other means. New reservoirs will be compatible with slickspot peppergrass habitat conservation.
- Stock pond dams will be maintained and repaired as necessary to retain their water storage capability. Maintenance could include dredging of sediment, dam repair, and fencing.

Wells

- All new well heads must be fitted with a removable cover to prevent ground water contamination and protect wildlife. A safety device will be installed on new power lines to the well to prevent electrocution of raptors. Consistent with VRM objectives of the area and where feasible, new wells and associated structures shall be located where topographic features or vegetation will serve to screen associated structures and disturbances from the casual observer.

Springs

- New spring developments and modifications of existing spring developments should ensure adequate water to maintain associated wetlands and riparian areas by returning overflow to the same channel the water was diverted from. Development should involve digging or drilling to intercept naturally occurring water flow. Perforated pipe and/or collection boxes should be

utilized to collect and divert water through a pipeline to troughs and/or tanks away from vegetation communities associated with spring areas. The spring source should be fenced to prevent livestock grazing and trampling impacts to riparian vegetation communities. Spring enclosures should have gates installed and should be left open during the grazing off season to make water available for wildlife.

- Consistent with applicable cooperative range improvement agreements, spring developments including stock tanks, supply lines, spring boxes, and protective fences, shall be maintained and repaired as necessary to retain their functioning condition for stock-watering purposes.

Pipelines

- Construct pipelines to convey water from wells, springs, reservoirs, and other water sources to troughs or tanks in areas lacking adequate water, to maintain appropriate animal distribution. To the maximum extent possible, site pipelines under/along existing trails or roads. Use two-inch diameter plastic pipe should and buried to a depth that adequately prevents damage from grazing animals (i.e., 12-30 inches) or freezing. Where obstructions prohibit pipeline burial, the pipe may be laid on the ground surface and covered with borrow soil. At the authorized officer's discretion, reservoirs and other storage facilities may be constructed along pipelines to provide temporary emergency water for livestock in the event of equipment failure.

Troughs, Tanks, and Guzzlers

- All troughs and tanks (temporary or permanent) will be equipped with bird/animal escape ladder(s). Where feasible, troughs and tanks will be placed in upland vegetation communities less vulnerable to livestock impacts and soil compaction.
- Guzzlers will be constructed in locations with limited water available for wildlife use, primarily lower elevation desert habitats. Guzzlers should be fenced or designed to exclude livestock access. Projects will be designed to blend with the surrounding landscape and be consistent with the VRM class of the area.

Fences

- Surface disturbance associated with fence construction and maintenance should be minimized. Though the canopy of vegetation along fence lines can be removed and scattered, no blading or scraping of the soil surface should be authorized to clear routes for fence construction. All fences will be consistent with the VRM class of the area. Gates will be located and constructed at appropriate locations, road crossings, and adjacent to cattleguards to provide for livestock and heavy equipment passage. In those areas that receive recreation use, access via a stile (stairs/ladder over a fence line) or a walk-through device specifically designed to preclude livestock passage should be considered.
- Enclosure fencing at wetlands, streams, or spring developments will be routinely maintained.
- Flag fencing will be implemented where there is higher potential for collisions.
- Where fences need maintenance, they will be improved to wildlife standards and modified to drop down fences in winter range and important wildlife areas.
- When water gaps are necessary, they will be located in rocky areas (natural or manmade) to minimize trampling damage to streambanks and streambeds. Use narrow water gaps to discourage livestock from loafing at the water source.

Range Improvement Maintenance

- Normal maintenance of existing projects will occur, as consistent with original design, throughout the life of the plan in order to support authorized uses of public land. Maintenance

includes activities such as replacement of pipeline sections, fence posts, and wire replacement; cleaning of reservoirs (within the original disturbance area); repair of reservoir dikes and dams; replacement of water troughs; cleaning, maintenance and replacement of spring boxes; cleaning or resetting of cattleguards; removal of encroaching or invasive trees/shrubs; and maintenance of livestock handling facilities. While maintenance of existing facilities may occur in Special Management Areas, there may be further mitigation actions required to ensure that resource values are not impaired or impacted.

Wildlife Mitigation

- Bighorn sheep observations in domestic sheep allotments will immediately trigger coordination with IDFG, and if determined appropriate during coordination, a risk assessment for disease transmission to the bighorn sheep herd if bighorn sheep and domestic sheep are observed in proximity to each other or when bighorn sheep are observed in an active domestic sheep allotment.

RECREATION

- Recreation will be managed consistent with existing policies, guidelines, and budgetary constraints, recognizing that some level of regulation and limits are necessary.
- Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) will be issued as a discretionary action. At the time of issuance, all SRPs will include standard stipulations and could include other special stipulations necessary to protect land or resources, reduce user conflicts, or minimize health and safety hazards.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT

- Temporary closures will be considered in accordance with 43 CFR subpart 8364 (Closures and Restrictions); 43 CFR subpart 8351 (Designated National Area); 43 CFR subpart 6302 (Use of Wilderness Areas, Prohibited Acts, and Penalties); 43 CFR subpart 8341 (Conditions of Use) and other applicable law and policy.
- Where motorized vehicles are causing or could potentially cause considerable adverse effects on soil, vegetation, wildlife, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, historical resources, threatened or endangered species, wilderness suitability, other authorized uses, or other resources, the affected areas shall be immediately closed to the type(s) of vehicle causing the adverse effect until the adverse effects are eliminated and measures are implemented to prevent recurrence.
- Seasonal closures will be implemented, where necessary, to protect designated roads and trails from resource damage.

LANDS AND REALTY

Exclusion and Avoidance Areas

- Land use applications in Avoidance areas will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may require special terms, conditions, stipulations, and bonding before BLM approves the application. Documented evidence will be required that reasonable alternatives to site a project in Avoidance areas were considered and rejected based on sound rationale.
- Emergency or nonstandard maintenance activities may be authorized during seasonal closure periods. These activities will be restricted to the existing rights-of-way (ROW), permit, or lease boundary, must require no longer than 72 hours to complete, and the authorized officer must be notified within 24 hours following completion.

Rights-Of-Way and Corridors

- ROWs will be granted for the minimum necessary length and width and will be co-located with other compatible ROWs to the extent feasible.
- Communication sites will be co-located within existing facilities wherever feasible.
- ROWs will be located to minimize safety or incompatibility issues.
- New ROWs are prohibited within Exclusion areas.
- ROW applications within Avoidance areas will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis.
- The Idaho Department of Transportation will be encouraged to relinquish Material Site ROWs (Title 23 of the Federal Highway Act) that are no longer being utilized.
- The West Wide Energy Corridor (WVEC) will be carried forward in each alternative as the only designated ROW corridor in the Planning Area. No other corridors are proposed in this plan due to an apparent lack of public interest and the overall fragmentation of public land ownership in the Planning Area.
- Temporary (less than three years) land use authorizations will be subject to seasonal or timing restrictions and mitigation to reduce habitat loss as needed.
- New ROW applications for water facilities (ditches, canals, pipelines), or amendments to existing water facilities which include additional structures to improve fish passage or benefits to fisheries (new diversions, fish screens) will be allowed on a case-by-case basis subject to required design features (RDFs) to reduce impacts on Greater Sage-grouse habitat and mitigation requirements regarding Greater Sage-grouse habitat loss as needed.
- When a ROW grant expires and is not requested to be renewed, is relinquished, or terminated, the lease holder will be required to reclaim the site by removing overhead lines and other infrastructure and to eliminate avian predator nesting opportunities provided by anthropogenic development on public lands associated with the now void/expired ROW grant (e.g., remove power line and communication facilities no longer in service).
- Restoration, stabilization, and reclamation of public land will be required following termination or expiration of land use authorizations.
- Effects of infrastructure projects, including siting, will be minimized using the best available science, updated as monitoring information on current infrastructure projects becomes available.
- Power lines will be constructed in accordance with standards outlined by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC 2006) or according to most recent and best available science.
- Rights-of-way for development of new or amended ROWs in important habitat management areas (IHMAs) can be considered consistent with the IHMA Anthropogenic Disturbance Development Criteria.

Renewable Energy

- Renewable energy applications will be analyzed on a site-specific basis consistent with existing laws, regulations, Bureau of Land Management policies, and NEPA requirements.
- Authorizations for energy development may provide for concurrent or sequential development with other resource uses, provided that appropriate stipulations or conditions are incorporated into the authorizations to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation and environmental impacts.

Land Use Permits

- Land use permits may be issued for the use, development or occupancy of public lands, provided that the proposed use: (1) is in the public interest, (2) is compatible with and/or enhances resource values, and (3) is consistent with existing laws, regulations, and land use

planning.

- Land use permits may be issued to provide adequate time for unauthorized improvements or facilities to be removed from public land, or to provide sufficient time to complete a land tenure adjustment.
- New permits in IHMA can be considered consistent with the IHMA Anthropogenic Disturbance Development Criteria.

Leases

- Leases will be considered only when they are compatible with and/or enhance resource values and are consistent with current laws and regulations.
- New leases in IHMA can be considered consistent with the IHMA Anthropogenic Disturbance Development Criteria.

Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Lease and Sales

- R&PP applications for sale or patent, will be accepted only for lands meeting one or more of the sale criteria.
- Lands managed for ESA listed and/or BLM Types 2-3 (Special Status Species) habitat will not be available for R&PP patent unless the proposed use will enhance the special status species habitat. Allegation, hypothesis, or speculation that habitat will be enhanced by a proposed use shall not be sufficient basis for approving a proposal. R&PP applications shall be rejected if they lack convincing evidence that habitat enhancement will occur.
- No more land shall be conveyed than is reasonably necessary for a proposed use.

Unauthorized Use (Trespass)

- Unauthorized use may be resolved: 1) by removal and restoration of the trespass, 2) through issuance of a long-term ROW or lease, or 3) through a land tenure adjustment.
- Short-term authorizations may be issued only if the authorized officer has agreed to a feasible long-term resolution.
- Unauthorized use in Exclusion areas shall not be resolved by issuance of a long-term authorization.
- Unauthorized use that meets one or more of the following criteria warrants immediate removal and restoration of the land to the authorized officer's satisfaction unless the action can be mitigated to provide a public benefit or eliminate resource damages:
 - Trespass that affects specially designated areas;
 - Trespass that occurs in areas where the specific type of unauthorized use, occupancy, or development is specifically prohibited or excluded;
 - Trespass that was committed with criminal or malicious intent; and includes a consistent pattern of actions, even if those actions were taken in the belief that the conduct was reasonable or legal; and
 - Resolution of trespass through issuance of a land use authorization is not in the public interest, as determined solely by the Field Manager.
- If the trespass situation does not warrant immediate cessation, the BLM will prioritize the resolution according to the following order:
 - Situations involving specially designated areas, sensitive ecosystems, and resources of regional or national significance;
 - New activities or uses where prompt action could minimize damage to public resources; and

- Situations where delay will likely be detrimental to other resources or authorized users.
- If an unauthorized use is subsequently authorized, it will be authorized consistent with direction from this plan including BMPs, SOPs, RDFs and buffers. If the use is not subsequently authorized the site will be reclaimed by removing these unauthorized (trespass) features and rehabilitating the habitat.

Land Classifications and Withdrawals

- Process classifications and withdrawals from the public land and/or mineral laws to protect important resources and values.
- Propose whole or partial revocation of withdrawals that no longer serve the purpose(s) for which they were established.

MINERAL RESOURCES

- Mineral leasing is a discretionary action subject to an environmental analysis and may include stipulations to protect other resources.
- Areas that do not require special stipulations will be leased subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form and conditions as described in Appendix G.
- Once a mineral lease has been issued, any proposed activities will be subject to additional site and project specific NEPA analysis and additional Conditions of Approval (COAs) may be applied.
- Consideration of any affected environmental justice communities will occur during site and project specific NEPA analysis.
- All applicable geothermal lease stipulations, as set forth in the ROD for Geothermal Leasing (USDOI BLM 2008g), will be included in all future lease offers in addition to stipulations, as applicable, as found in Appendix G.
- Lands acquired by other federal agencies may be leased with concurrence of these agencies.
- Fluid mineral leasing activities within WSAs will be managed in accordance with BLM Manual 6330 - Management of Wilderness Study Areas (USDOI BLM 1969).

Locatable Minerals

- Public land is available for location of mining claims unless withdrawn from mineral entry. Location of mining claims in accordance with state and federal mining laws and regulations is nondiscretionary. Recommendations by BLM for withdrawal are subject to final consideration by the Secretary of the Interior.
- Withdrawals will require Secretarial and/or Congressional approval, and be for a maximum of 20 years, subject to review at the end of that period to determine the necessity of continuance.

Salable Minerals

- Exploration of new sites will be the responsibility of the applicant. Exploration will be allowed, where appropriate, under a letter of authorization from the Field Office Manager. Sale approval will be subject to environmental analysis and include stipulations to protect other resources.
- The BLM will ensure reclamation (Glossary) of mineral material sites per the terms and conditions of the permit or sale contract. The BLM Field Office Manager has the discretion to require a reclamation bond, however bonding is required for a sale over \$2,000.
- Mineral material disposals are discretionary actions. The general policy shall be to promote the use of existing sites.

- Geological resources will be managed in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- Hazardous materials incidents will be responded to in a timely and efficient manner in accordance with current Federal, State, and local laws, rules, and regulations to ensure public safety and decrease the potential for environmental damage.

Appendix D – Special Status Plants

Appendix D – Special Status Plants

Special status plants (SSPs) include all vascular and non-vascular plants and lichens that are ESA-listed Threatened or Endangered species, species proposed for or candidates for listing, and sensitive species designated by the BLM State Director (USDOI BLM 2011). The BLM manages SSPs under the policy established in BLM Manual 6840 (USDOI BLM 2009), in addition to requirements set forth under the ESA. National policy directs State Directors to designate BLM sensitive species in cooperation with state fish and wildlife agencies (USDOI BLM 2009). The Idaho BLM State Office updated their SSP designations in 2022. The sensitive species designation is normally used for species that occur on public lands for which the BLM has the capability to affect the conservation status of the species through management. Based upon numerous criteria, such as risk of extinction, population size, distribution, and trend, SSPs are assigned a Type number.

Type 1 species are those that are listed as Threatened, Endangered, or Candidates under the ESA; Type 2 species are those that are range-wide or globally imperiled with a high risk of endangerment; Type 3 species are range-wide or globally imperiled species with a moderate risk of endangerment; and Type 4 species are species of concern, including species that are generally rare in Idaho with currently low endangerment threats (USDOI BLM 2011). SSP occurrences are referred to as an element occurrence (EO). An EO is defined as “an area of land and/or water in which a species or natural community is, or was, present” (NatureServe 2002).

Table D-1. BLM Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur on Public Lands within the Planning Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	BLM Status	General Habitat Description
<i>Allium aaseae</i>	Aase's onion	Type 2	Coarse sandy soil, most commonly on steep southerly exposures, on or near ridgetops in sagebrush communities often with three-awn grass and bitterbrush, from 2,620-4,940 feet.
<i>Allium tolmiei</i> var. <i>persimile</i>	Tolmie's onion	Type 4	Rocky, gravelly, or clay soils; from 2,300-2,620 feet.
<i>Astragalus atratus</i> var. <i>inseptus</i>	Mourning milkvetch	Type 4	Thin soil of stony basalt flats with spring moisture, in sagebrush/grass communities, below 4,920 feet.
<i>Astragalus cusickii</i> var. <i>packardiae</i>	Packard's milkvetch	Type 2	Sparsely vegetated, light-colored soils, associated with Wyoming big sagebrush, about 2,790 feet.
<i>Astragalus mulfordiae</i>	Mulford's milkvetch	Type 2	Mostly south-facing sandy slopes and ridges; with needle-and-thread grass, Indian ricegrass, and bitterbrush, from 2,130-3,530 feet.
<i>Astragalus purshii</i> var. <i>ophiogenes</i>	Snake River milkvetch	Type 4	Barren sites with big sagebrush, Indian ricegrass, needle-and-thread grass, and four-wing saltbush; 2,300-3,530 feet.
<i>Camassia cusickii</i>	Cusick's camas	Type 4	Steep moist slopes and terraces of spring fed areas or slow-moving water.

Scientific Name	Common Name	BLM Status	General Habitat Description
<i>Carex parryana</i> var. <i>brevisquama</i> (<i>C. aboriginum</i>)	Indian Valley sedge	Type 2	Dry gumbo or gravelly soils.
<i>Catapyrenium congestum</i> (<i>Heteropladidium congestum</i>)	Earth lichen	Type 4	Sagebrush or shadscale steppe, restricted to barren, slightly natric soil sites.
<i>Ceanothus prostratus</i>	Mahala mat	Type 3	Ponderosa pine/shrub community in clay loam soils.
<i>Cyperus rivularis</i> (<i>C. bipartitus</i>)	Shining flat sedge	Type 4	Wet ground, stream margins, pond shores, and ditches.
<i>Dermatocarpon lorenzanium</i>	Silver-skin lichen	Type 3	Found on rocks in heavy clay, shallow, stony basalt soil in <i>Eriogonum thymoides</i> plant community.
<i>Dovingia bacigalupii</i>	Bacigalupi's dovingia	Type 4	Drying mud of vernal pools, muddy margins of lakes, wet meadows, roadsides, irrigation ditches, and streambanks; 2,950-6,230 feet.
<i>Eriogonum ochrocephalum</i> var. <i>calcareum</i>	Calcareous buckwheat	Type 3	Rolling, sparsely vegetated, clay hills with four-wing saltbush; 2,620-2,950 feet.
<i>Glyptopleura marginata</i>	White-margined wax plant	Type 4 ¹	Dry, sandy-gravelly or loose ash soils; in salt desert shrub communities; 2,620-3,940 feet.
<i>Lepidium davisii</i> (<i>L. montanum</i>)	Davis' peppergrass	Type 3	Hard bottom playas, mostly barren, though occasionally with a few shadscale and silver sagebrush surrounded by Wyoming big sagebrush habitat, 2,900-5,900 feet.
<i>Lepidium papilliferum</i>	Slickspot peppergrass	Type 1	Bare slick spot soils within Wyoming big sagebrush habitat.
<i>Lomatium packardiae</i>	Packard's desert parsley	Type 2	Volcanic ash, rhyolite, and rocky clay soils in the sagebrush zone; 2,950-4,270 feet.
<i>Mimulus clivicola</i> (<i>Eunanus clivicola</i>)	Bank monkeyflower	Type 4	Pockets of moist, exposed mineral soil or fine gravel in moist to moderately dry slopes and rocky, talus outcrops in the foothills and valleys; almost exclusively on southern aspects.
<i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i> (<i>M. patulus</i>)	Stalk-leaved monkeyflower	Type 2	Ephemeral seeps, moist basalt, and very fine gravel on top of bedrock; 980-1,970 feet.
<i>Pediocactus simpsonii</i>	Simpson's hedgehog cactus	Type 4	Rocky or sandy benches and canyon rims in low sagebrush, bud sage, and Sandberg bluegrass communities; often associated with <i>Eriogonum bloomeri</i> , from 2,950-5,910 feet.

Scientific Name	Common Name	BLM Status	General Habitat Description
<i>Peraphyllum ramosissimum</i>	Indian apple	Type 3	Heavy clay soils, often as small inclusions in sagebrush/bunchgrass or mountain shrub communities, 3,280-4,920 feet.
<i>Primula cusickiana</i> A/complex	Cusick's primrose	Type 4	Steep north-facing slopes; often in snowbank areas on moss mats, big sagebrush-Idaho fescue communities, and bitterbrush; 2,950-4,270 feet.
<i>Pyrrocoma radiata</i> (<i>Haplopappus radiatus</i>)	Snake River goldenweed	Type 3	Loamy soils on steep, rocky hillsides; in big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass/arrowleaf balsamroot/Idaho fescue communities; 2,130-4,920 feet.
<i>Texosporium sancti-jacobi</i> (<i>Cyphellium sancti-jacobi</i>)	Woven-spore lichen	Type 2	Well decomposed humus, especially old clumps of Sandberg bluegrass; on flat or north-facing slopes; 2,890-3,280 feet.
<i>Trifolium douglasii</i>	Douglas' clover	Type 2	Usually within open ponderosa pine to Douglas-fir forests, in moist meadows and along stream courses where moisture is abundant in spring and early summer.
<i>Trifolium plumosum</i> var. <i>amplifolium</i>	Plumed clover	Type 3 ¹	Dry mesic, mid- to upper-slope Idaho fescue – bluebunch wheatgrass Palouse prairies.
¹ Historic Occurrences			

In addition to the 27 SSPs known from public land, several other sensitive plants occur within the PA on non-public land. The greatest numbers of these sensitive species occur in Valley County. These sensitive plants have the potential to occur on public land and are reported below. Global, state, and Idaho Native Plant Society (INPS) rankings are included, as few of these species occur on public land to date; therefore, they have not been given BLM status designations.

Table D-2. Sensitive Plants Known to Occur on Non-public Land in the Planning Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	BLM Status	Rank ^a
<i>Allium madidum</i>	Swamp onion	NA	G3/S3 (GP3)
<i>Allium validum</i>	Tall swamp onion	NA	G4/S3 (S)
<i>Allotropa virgata</i>	Candystick	Type 4	G4/S3 (S)
<i>Astragalus vexilliflexus</i> var. <i>vexilliflexus</i>	Bent-flowered milkvetch	NA	G4T4/S1 (1)
<i>Botrychium crenulatum</i>	Crenulate moonwort	NA	G3/S1 (GP3)
<i>Botrychium simplex</i>	Least moonwort	NA	G5/S2 (2)
<i>Bryum calobryoides</i>	Beautiful bryum	NA	G3/SH (GP3)
<i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>	Green bug-on-a-stick	NA	G3G4/S3 (M)
<i>Carex flava</i>	Yellow sedge	NA	G5/S3 (M)
<i>Carex livida</i>	Pale sedge	Type 4	G5/S2 (S)
<i>Carex stramineiformis</i>	Mt. Shasta sedge	NA	G5/S2 (S)
<i>Chaenactis cusickii</i>	Cusick's false yarrow	Type 2	G3/S2 (GP3)
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i> ssp. <i>nanus</i>	Dwarf gray rabbitbrush	NA	G5T4/S3 (M)
<i>Cicuta bulbifera</i>	Bulb-bearing waterhemlock	Type 4	G5/S2 (S)
<i>Douglasia idahoensis</i>	Idaho douglasia	NA	G2/S2 (GP2)

Scientific Name	Common Name	BLM Status	Rank ^a
<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Swamp willow-herb	Type 4	G5/S3 (M)
<i>Epipactis gigantea</i>	Chatterbox orchid	Type 3	G3G4/S3 (2)
<i>Erigeron salmonensis</i>	Salmon River fleabane	NA	G3/S3 (GP3)
<i>Eriophorum viridicarinum</i>	Green keeled cotton-grass	NA	G5/S2 (1)
<i>Hackelia cronquistii</i> (<i>H. patens</i>)	Cronquist's forget-me-not	Type 3	G3/S1 (GP3)
<i>Hackelia davisii</i>	Davis' stickseed	NA	G3/S3 (GP3)
<i>Helodium blandowii</i>	Blandow's helodium	NA	G5/S2 (1)
<i>Hierochloe odorata</i>	Sweetgrass	Type 2	G5/S1 (1)
<i>Lewisia sacajaweana</i>	Sacajawea's bitterroot	Type 4	G2/S2 (GP3)
<i>Pogogyne floribunda</i>	Profuseflower mesamint	NA	G3/S1 (1)
<i>Polystichum kruckebergii</i>	Kruckeberg's sword-fern	NA	G4/S2 (S)
<i>Pyrrocoma insecticruris</i> (<i>Haplopappus insecticruris</i>)	Bugleg goldenweed	Type 3	G3/S3 (GP3)
<i>Rhynchospora alba</i>	White beakrush	NA	G5/S2 (1)
<i>Ribes wolfii</i>	Wolf's currant	NA	G4/S2 (M)
<i>Sanicula graveolens</i>	Sierra sanicle	NA	G4G5/S1 (S)
<i>Saxifraga bryophora</i> var. <i>tobiasiae</i>	Tobias' saxifrage	NA	G5T2/S2 (GP2)
<i>Scheuchzeria palustris</i>	Pod grass	NA	G5/S2 (2)
<i>Schistostega pennata</i>	Schistostega	NA	G3G5/S1 (S)
<i>Schoenoplectus subterminalis</i> (<i>Scripus subterminalis</i>)	Water clubrush	NA	G4G5/S3 (S)
<i>Sedum borschii</i>	Borsch's stonecrop	NA	G4?/S2 (M)
<i>Stanleya confertiflora</i>	Malheur princesplume	Type 2	G1/S1 (GP3)
<i>Sullivantia hapemanii</i> var. <i>hapemanii</i>	Hapeman's sullivantia	NA	G3T3/S2 (GP3)
<i>Teucrium canadense</i> var. <i>occidentale</i>	American wood sage	Type 4	G5T5?/S2 (1)
<i>Triantha occidentalis</i> ssp. <i>brevistyla</i>	Short-style tofieldia	NA	G5T4/S1 (1)

^a**G** = Global rank indicator; denotes rank based on rangewide status (1-critically imperiled, 2-imperiled, 3-vulnerable, 4-apparently secure, 5-secure, ?-uncertain about stated rank). **T** = Trinomial rank indicator; denotes global status of infraspecific taxa (1-critically imperiled, 2-imperiled, 3-vulnerable, 4-apparently secure, 5-secure). **S** = State rank indicator; denotes rank based on status within Idaho (1-critically imperiled, 2-imperiled, 3-vulnerable, 4-apparently secure, 5-secure). INPS = **GP**-global priority 1 through 3, 1-State priority – in danger of extinction of/ extirpation from Idaho in the foreseeable future, 2-State priority – likely to become priority 1 in the foreseeable future, S-sensitive, M-monitor. [IFWIS 2010].

Figure 1. Implementation of Annual Grazing Adaptive Management

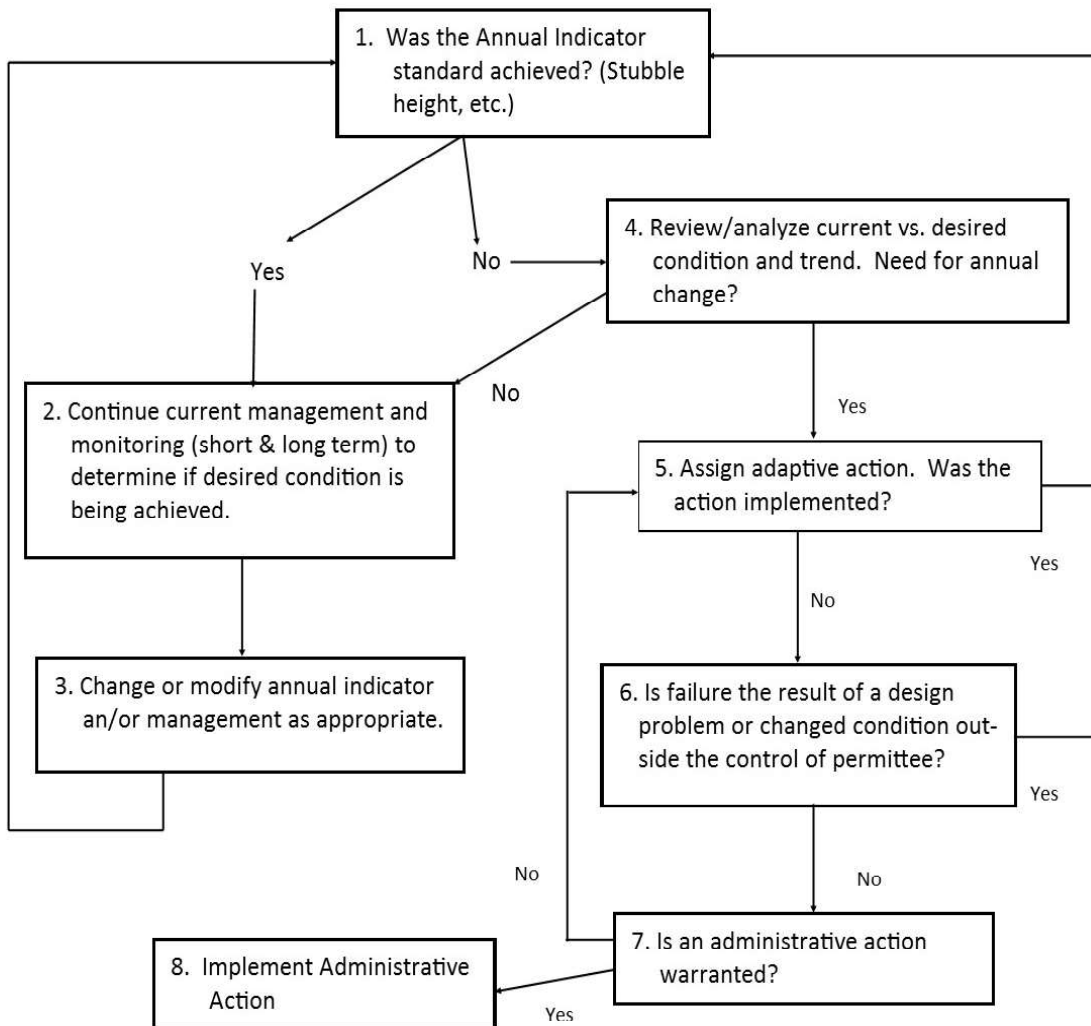
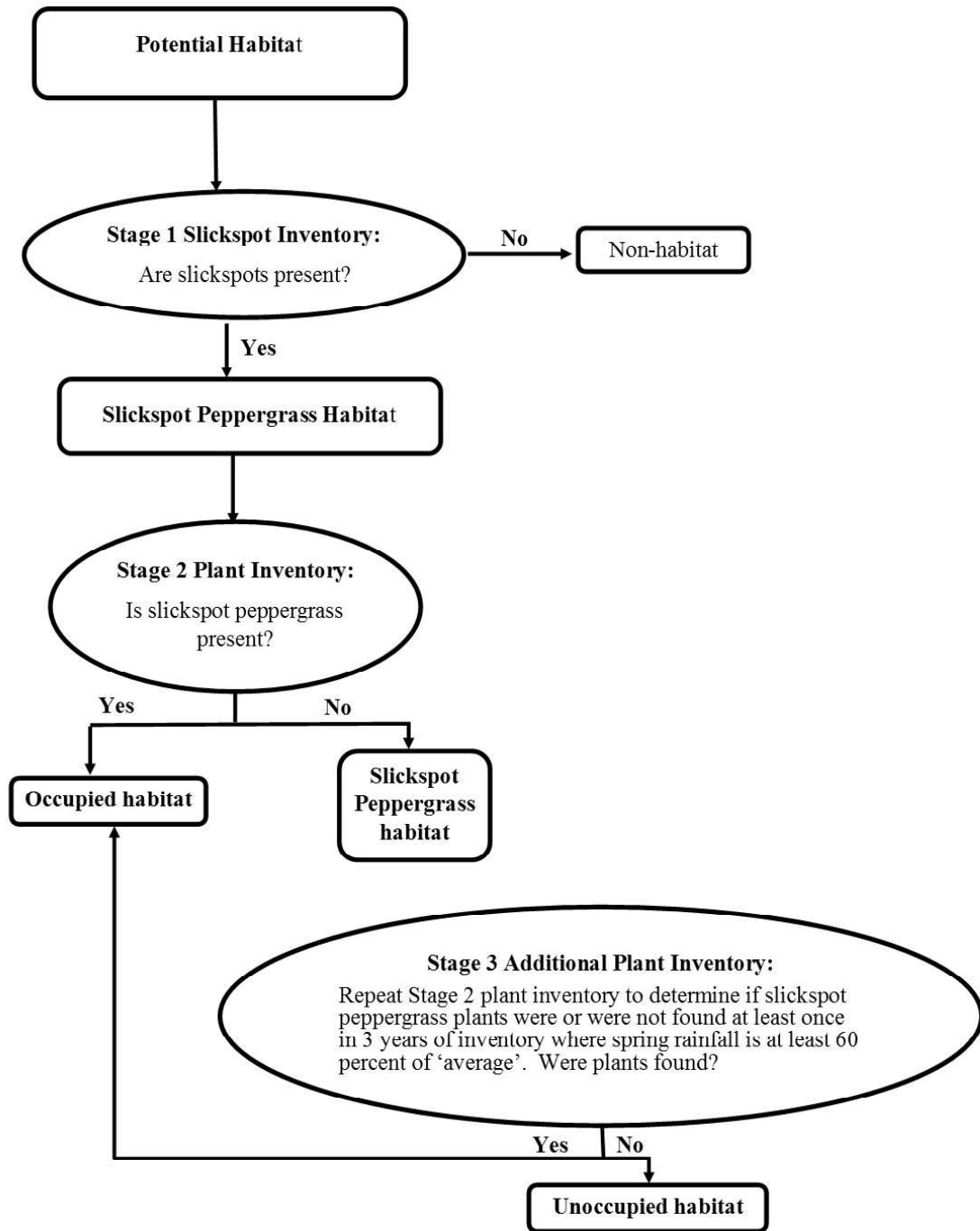


Figure 2. Inventory flowchart for slickspot peppergrass.



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Appendix E – Seasonal Wildlife Restrictions

Appendix E – Seasonal Wildlife Restrictions

In general, BLM-generated projects (e.g., vegetation treatments, range improvements) and other actions for which BLM authorization is required (e.g., rights-of-way, lease authorizations, organized recreational events), should be analyzed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and sited or designed in a manner that avoids impacts to wildlife species or habitats of concern to the extent possible, based on current science. Seasonal wildlife restrictions are intended to protect wildlife resources from disturbance during important seasons of the year, such as breeding, nesting, or wintering.

RAPTORS AND MIGRATORY BIRDS

During project planning, the BLM and project proponents should work closely with the USFWS to identify and incorporate provisions and protocols for the conservation of migratory birds.

Raptor habitat management and activities should be planned to:

- Consider impacts to raptor prey populations beyond the natural range of variation;
- Avoid or minimize impacts to habitats preferred by raptors for nest and roost locations;
- Identify high-use habitat and nest aggregation areas for species which demonstrate group behavior and avoid or minimize habitat fragmentation;
- Mitigate for unavoidable habitat losses; and
- Monitor to determine suitability and efficacy of mitigation.

Table E-1. Seasonal Restrictions

Species	Distance Restriction	Timing Restriction
Long-Billed Curlew	0.25 mile of occupied nests All of Curlew ACEC	Mar 1 – June 30
Bald Eagle Nest	0.5-1 mile of occupied nests	Feb 1 – July 31
Golden Eagle	0.5 mile of occupied nests	Feb 1 – July 31
Ferruginous Hawk	1 mile of occupied nests	Feb 1 – July 31
Burrowing Owl	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Feb 1 – July 31

Table E-2 provides seasonal and spatial buffer recommendations for nesting raptors.

Table E-2. Seasonal Recommendations

Species	Distance Recommendation	Timing Recommendation
Raptor Winter Concentration Areas	1 mile from occupied habitat	Nov 1 – March 31
Bald Eagle Winter Roost	1 mile from occupied habitat	Nov 1 – March 31
Swainson's Hawk	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Mar 1 – Aug 31
Red-tailed Hawk	0.33 mile of occupied nests	Mar 15 – Aug 31
Northern Goshawk	0.5 mile of occupied nests	Mar 1 – Aug 15
Peregrine Falcon	1 mile of occupied nests	Mar 1 – Aug 31
Prairie Falcon	0.5 mile of occupied nests	Apr 1 – Aug 31
Northern Harrier	0.5 mile of occupied nests	Apr 1 – Aug 31
Osprey	0.5 mile of occupied nests	Apr 1 – Aug 31
Short-eared Owl	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Mar 1 – Aug 1
Long-eared Owl	0.5 mile of occupied nests	Feb 1 – Aug 15
Western Screech Owl	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Mar 1 – Aug 15

Species	Distance Recommendation	Timing Recommendation
Great Gray Owl	0.5 mile of occupied nests	-
Great Horned Owl	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Dec 1 – Sept 30
Northern Saw Whet Owl	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Mar 1 – Aug 31
Northern Pygmy Owl	0.25 mile of occupied nests	Apr 1 – Aug 31

BIG GAME WINTER RANGE

Winter range is delineated locally by the IDFG for each big game species based on the most recent available information. Factors to consider when granting exceptions to seasonal restrictions on winter range or in bighorn sheep lambing habitat include:

- Animal presence or absence;
- Animal condition;
- Weather severity including snow conditions, seasonal weather patterns, wind chill, temperatures, duration of winter conditions, and long-range forecast;
- Habitat condition and availability including animal density, forage condition and availability (amount of forage and snow depth/crusting), and forage availability in the vicinity;
- Site location such as thermal and hiding cover, topographic features, and other activity in the area that could cause cumulative impacts; and
- Timing, whether the project is early or nearing the end of the winter season, and the type and duration of the disruptive activity.

Table E-2. Winter Range Seasonal Restrictions

Species	Distance Restriction	Timing Restriction
Elk Winter Range	Designated Winter Range	Nov 15 – May 1
Mule Deer Winter Range	Designated Winter Range	Nov 15 – May 1
Pronghorn Winter Range	Designated Winter Range	Nov 15 – May 1
Bighorn Winter Range	Designated Winter Range	Nov 15 – May 1

GREATER SAGE-GROUSE

The following restrictions are from the 2015 ARMPA (USDOJ BLM 2015a & b). The timing and distance restrictions identified below for Greater Sage-grouse are in conformance with the decisions found in the 2015 ARMPA. As such, the decisions are included below for reference, and the reader is directed to the 2015 ARMPA for the most current direction pertaining to Greater Sage-grouse management on public lands.

Table E-3. GRSG Seasonal Restrictions

Species	Distance Restriction	Timing Restriction
Greater Sage-grouse IHMA and GHMA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linear features (roads) within 3.1 miles of leks 2. Infrastructure related to energy development within 3.1 miles of leks. 3. Tall structures (e.g., communication or transmission towers, 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No repeated or sustained behavioral disturbance (e.g., visual, noise over 10 dbA at lek, etc.) to lekking birds from 6:00 pm to 9:00 am within 2 miles (3.2 km) of leks during the lekking season.

Species	Distance Restriction	Timing Restriction
	transmission lines) within 2 miles of leks. 4. Low structures (e.g., fences, rangeland structures) within 1.2 miles of leks. 5. Surface disturbance (continuing human activities that alter or remove the natural vegetation) within 3.1 miles of leks. 6. Noise and related disruptive activities including those that do not result in habitat loss (e.g., motorized recreational events) at least 0.25 miles from leks.	2. Avoid mechanized anthropogenic disturbance, in nesting habitat during the nesting season when implementing: 1) fuels/vegetation/habitat restoration management projects, 2) infrastructure construction or maintenance, 3) geophysical exploration activities; 4) organized motorized recreational events. 3. Avoid mechanized anthropogenic disturbance during the winter, in wintering areas when implementing: 1) fuels/vegetation/habitat restoration management projects, 2) infrastructure construction or maintenance, 3) geophysical exploration activities; 4) organized motorized recreational events.
Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Leks	3.1 miles of occupied or undetermined status lek	March 1 – May 15

EXCEPTIONS TO TIMING AND DISTANCE RESTRICTIONS

Seasonal wildlife restrictions are intended to protect wildlife resources from disturbance during important seasons of the year such as breeding, nesting, or wintering. Exceptions to seasonal restrictions may be considered and granted by the Field Manager if the BLM field office biologist, in consultation with IDFG, believes that granting an exception will not unacceptably disturb, displace, or distress the wildlife species being protected. Use of available data and knowledge of local conditions will be the primary factors in making the recommendation. The general process will be as follows:

- 1) All requests² for an exception to a seasonal wildlife restriction must be initiated in writing to the BLM Field Manager. The request must include a description of the activity needing exception, the need and rationale for the exception, mitigation measures and alternatives such as traffic restriction, alternative scheduling, staged activity, etc., that may reduce impacts to the wildlife resource and dates for the requested exception.
- 2) The BLM field office biologist, in coordination with the appropriate IDFG staff, will review the application for the exception and available information, including site visits as appropriate, and provide a recommendation in writing to the Field Manager.

² Exception requests are required for both internal and external generated projects.

- 3) A final determination for granting an exception to seasonal wildlife restrictions will be made by the BLM Field Manager, in consideration of the biologist's recommendation and consistent with applicable laws, regulations, policies, or local planning. The request for exception is considered as a unique, site-specific action and is analyzed and subsequently documented by the Field Manager or his/her representative, with respect to RMP and project NEPA compliance. If existing project-level NEPA documentation is adequate, a Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) and Decision Record are sufficient (See BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1 (USDO IBLM 2008)). In other cases, preparation of a separate environmental assessment (EA) may be necessary; however, under those circumstances it will be difficult to accommodate an exception on short notice. In all cases, the rationale for granting or not granting the exception must be documented, including the biologists' findings and recommendation, and concurrence or non-concurrence with IDFG recommendations.
- 4) Notification to the applicant will occur in writing, via letter or email from the Field Manager or his/her representative.
- 5) Exceptions may be cancelled by the Field Manager or authorized officer in the event that local conditions change suddenly in a manner that places wildlife at unacceptable risk. For example, a temporary exception for construction activities in big game winter range granted on a Monday could be cancelled if heavy snowfall on the following Wednesday results in an unanticipated concentration of mule deer in the project area. In such cases, the Field Office Manager or his/her representative will contact the project proponent as soon as possible to discuss the situation and negotiate an appropriate resolution.

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Appendix F - Aquatic Resources

Appendix F – Aquatic Resources

In 1972, Congress passed the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, more commonly called the Clean Water Act (CWA). The goal of this act was to “restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters” (Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 1972). The act and the programs it has generated have changed over the years as experience and perceptions of water quality have changed. The CWA has been amended 15 times, most significantly in 1977, 1981, and 1987. One of the goals of the 1977 amendment was protecting and managing waters to insure “swimmable and fishable” conditions. This goal, along with a 1972 goal to restore and maintain chemical, physical, and biological integrity, relates water quality with more than just chemistry.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Government, through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), assumed the dominant role in defining and directing water pollution control programs across the country. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) implements the CWA in Idaho, while EPA oversees Idaho and certifies the fulfillment of CWA requirements and responsibilities.

Streams within this analysis area have been designated by the State of Idaho for the beneficial use designations of primary contact recreation, cold-water biota, agricultural water supply, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics. The most limiting of these is cold-water biota. State of Idaho criteria for cold-water biota beneficial uses are water temperatures of 22°C or less with a maximum daily average of less than 19°C.

DEQ's stream temperature standards are designed to protect aquatic life uses, which are the only uses that have temperature requirements. The criteria vary by aquatic use: warm water, seasonal cold water, cold water, salmonid spawning, and bull trout (Table F-1). The latter two uses are subcategories of the cold-water use. For all but bull trout, DEQ uses a pair of criteria, targeting daily maximum and daily average temperatures. Depending on the diurnal (day to night) temperature range in a given stream, one or the other of these paired criteria will limit the stream's warmth. Using a pair of criteria provides regulation over a broader range of streams than either alone could. For bull trout the criterion is for a seven-day rolling average of daily maximums. This rolling average regulates maximums while allowing a few individual days to be slightly warmer.

Table F-1. Stream Temperature Standards

Use Metric	Warm Water	Seasonal Cold	Cold Water	Salmonid Spawning	Bull Trout
MDMT ^a	33 °C (91 °F)	26 °C (79 °F)	22 °C (72 °F)	13 °C (55 °F)	N/A
MWMT ^b	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13 °C (55 °F)
MDAT ^c	29 °C (84 °F)	23 °C (73 °F)	19 °C (66 °F)	9 °C (48 °F)	N/A
^a MDMT = Maximum Daily Maximum Temperature ^b MWMT = Maximum Weekly (7-day average) Maximum Temperature ^c MDAT = Maximum Daily Average Temperature					

Intermittent Water Bodies

All surface waters are protected for the following beneficial uses: wildlife habitat, agricultural water supply, and industrial water supply (Idaho Administrative Procedures Act [IDAPA] 58.01.02). All undesignated surface waters are protected for the following beneficial uses: primary or secondary contact recreation, cold water aquatic life, and the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, where attainable.

The State of Idaho defines an intermittent stream as one that has a period of 0 flow for at least one week during most years or has a seven-day average flow (7Q2) hydrologically based flow of less than 0.10 cubic feet per second (cfs). (IDAPA 58.01.02.003.51). The 7Q2 is defined as the seven-day average flow over a two-week period. If a stream contains natural perennial pools containing significant aquatic life, it is not considered intermittent.

Water quality standards shall only apply to intermittent waters during optimum flow periods sufficient enough to support the beneficial uses for which the water body has been designated (IDAPA 58.01.02.070.07). The optimum flow for contact recreation is equal to, or greater than 5.0 cfs. The optimum flow for aquatic life is equal to or greater than 1.0 cfs.

The PA incorporates portions of the Boise, Camas, Payette, Salmon, and Snake Rivers' sub-basins and all of the Weiser sub-basin. Approximately 434 miles of perennial streams and rivers and 2,384 miles of intermittent streams flow across BLM-managed lands (E-2), which constitutes about ten percent of the total stream miles in the PA. Many of the water courses in the PA flow through lands not managed by the BLM. Land management practices on both BLM and non-BLM lands can affect water quality and quantity. In most cases, BLM can only address water quality issues that arise from activities on BLM-managed land through cooperative efforts with other federal, state, and private landowners.

Table F-2. Stream Miles by Ownership in the PA

Ownership	Stream Miles	Percent
BLM	2,664	10
USFS	13,431	51
STATE	1,432	6
PRIVATE	8,659	33
Total	26,186	100

Source: USGS National Hydrography Dataset flowline database; perennial and intermittent stream miles.

Although the final authority to determine beneficial uses, enforce water quality compliance, and determine total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) is held by IDEQ and EPA, maintaining water quality is a key concern for BLM as many aquatic species, including special status fish (e.g., bull trout and redband trout) and amphibians (e.g., northern leopard frog) rely on clean water. Therefore, the BLM plays an integral role in managing water quality by maintaining and improving riparian and upland habitat quality. Improving rangeland health through the Idaho Standards & Guidelines (S&Gs) and achieving properly functioning riparian and wetland ecosystems helps to maintain or improve water quality indicators (water temperature, sediment load, nutrient levels, etc.).

The IDEQ establishes water quality standards for Idaho which provide a foundation to protect, maintain, or improve water resources. These standards support federal laws such as the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977, Water Resources Planning Act of 1962, Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, and Safe Drinking Water Act of 1977. The Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended in 1987, provides for the protection, restoration, or improvement of water quality; enables states to establish

programs for regulating and managing non-point source pollution; and directs federal agencies to comply with state water quality laws. Various EOs and Department of Interior (DOI) and BLM manuals also direct the BLM to maintain and/or improve water quality.

IDEQ has responsibility for protecting water quality within Idaho and enforcing specific water quality standards for each beneficial use. Idaho water quality standards are used to ensure protection of designated beneficial water uses, including cold water fisheries, recreation, and agriculture. Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify pollutant-impaired water segments and develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) that set the maximum amount of pollutants a waterbody can receive without violating standards. In Idaho, TMDLs are coordinated by IDEQ. Idaho BLM strives to adhere to these water quality standards and TMDLs in order to protect public health and welfare and enhance water quality on public land. The statewide IDEQ standards for water quality indicators are identified in Table F-3.

Cold water aquatic life, primary and secondary contact recreation, and drinking water are the designated beneficial uses for perennial streams that are to be protected (IDAPA 58.01.02.100 and 58.01.02.100.02). The cold-water aquatic life beneficial use is given to waters that are suitable, or intended to be made suitable, for protection and maintenance of viable communities of aquatic organisms and populations of desirable aquatic species that have optimal growing temperatures <18° C (<64° F). Primary and secondary contact recreation standards are numeric and relate to the maximum allowed concentrations of bacteria (*Escherichia coli*) present in a waterbody.

The IDEQ uses indicators for water quality that include sediment, water temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO), *E. coli*, streamflow alterations/diversions, nutrients, pesticide pollutants (e.g., chlorpyrifos), and mercury.

Table F-3. Indicators and Standards for Monitoring Watershed Water Quality

Indicator	Measurement	IDEQ Standard
Sediment levels	Total suspended solids (turbidity metrics)	50-52 milligrams(mg)/liter(l) (average monthly)
		80 mg/l (weekly maximum)
Water Temperature	Maximum instantaneous	72° F
	Maximum daily average temperature	66° F
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	DO (mg/l)	Greater than 6.0 mg/l
Bacterial levels	<i>E. coli</i> ((colony forming units)(cfu)/100 milliliter (ml)) ^a	Less than 126 cfu/100 ml (geometric mean)(criterion)
Streamflow Alteration/Diversion	Presence/absence of de-watering	No de-watering
Nutrients levels	Ammonia	The 30-day average of total ammonia nitrogen is not to exceed the Criterion Continuous Concentration ^b more than once every 3 years.
	Total Phosphorous	0.100 mg/l free-flowing streams, 0.050 mg/l from mouth of streams into lake/reservoir, 0.025 mg/l lake/reservoir
Toxic Substances	Methyl Mercury	0.3 mg/kilogram(kg) of fresh weight fish tissue.

Indicator	Measurement	IDEQ Standard
Source: Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (IDAPA) 58.01.02 a The concentration of <i>E. coli</i> , based on a minimum of five samples during any 30-day period, must not exceed a geometric mean of 126 per 100 ml, nor may more than ten percent of total samples during any 30-day period exceed 410 per 100 ml. b See IDAPA 58.01.02 for formula to calculate Criterion Continuous Concentration.		

If a stream reach has an IDEQ assigned Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), or is 303(d) listed (IDEQ 2014), BLM routinely examines those streams for compliance with water quality standards while conducting Standards and Guidelines assessments. In addition, in streams hosting salmonid fishes (e.g., redband trout), stream temperatures are periodically monitored with temperature data loggers. Further, streams on the 303(d) list which have assigned TMDLs for bacteria are periodically sampled for pathogen levels.

The Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessment method was created to qualitatively evaluate the foundation of these processes, specifically the functionality of the physical processes occurring within a stream. These physical processes include the interactions of hydrology, stabilizing deep-rooted hydrophilic vegetation, and geomorphology (soils and landform). Since the PFC assessment compares each stream to its own potential, it is universally applicable to all but the most highly modified perennial and intermittent streams. The abbreviation PFC describes both the assessment method and a defined on-the-ground condition of a riparian area. The on-the-ground condition termed PFC refers to how well physical processes are functioning.

Over the past 20 years, nearly all perennial streams and wetlands in the PA have been assessed for PFC at least once. The majority of perennial flow regime streams were assessed on-site using protocols in either Technical Reference (TR)-1737 (USDOI BLM 1996a&b), or the most recent TR 1737-15 (USDOI BLM 2015). Streams and wetlands in remote or difficult to access areas, or in areas where a Standards and Guidelines Assessment has not been completed, were sometimes rated for PFC employing guidance found in *Using Aerial Photographs to Assess Proper Functioning Condition of Riparian-Wetland Areas* TR-1737-12 (1996).

Idaho water quality standards are used to ensure protection of designated beneficial water uses, including cold water fisheries, recreation, and agriculture. Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify pollutant-impaired water segments and develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) that set the maximum amount of pollutions a waterbody can receive without violating standards. In Idaho, TMDLs are coordinated by IDEQ. Idaho BLM strives to adhere to these water quality and TMDL standards in order to protect public health and welfare and enhance water quality on public land. The statewide IDEQ standards for water quality indicators are identified in Table F-3.

The optimum flow rates are >1 cubic-feet-per-second (cfs) for cold water aquatic life and >5 cfs for primary and secondary contact recreation. The cold-water aquatic life beneficial use is given to waters that are suitable, or intended to be made suitable, for protection and maintenance of viable communities of aquatic organisms, and populations of significant aquatic species that have optimal growing temperatures <18° C (<64° F). Primary and secondary contact recreation standards are numeric and relate to the allowed concentrations of bacteria (*E. coli*) present in a waterbody. Although Idaho considers spring flows to be waters of the state, IDEQ has no water quality standards that are specific to springs or wetlands.

Although streams may be listed by as water quality impaired (303(d)), that does not necessarily mean that individual reaches occurring on BLM administered lands or other ownerships are not meeting water quality standards, or TMDL limits. Rather, often streams in the entire watershed are shown (mapped) as not meeting IDEQ standards. BLM routinely tests for bacterial concentrations, and water temperature in fish bearing streams, regardless of any individual stream’s 303(d) listing, or designated TMDL limits.

Of the 47.1 miles of water quality impaired reaches, 25.2-stream-miles (53 percent) met water quality standards, and 21.9-stream-miles (47 percent) did not meet water quality standards. Of the 47.1 stream-miles of perennial flow regime water quality limited streams, 14.1 miles (30 percent) were in PFC, and 33.0 miles (70 percent) were in functional-at risk (FAR) condition.

Table F-4. Water Quality Impaired Waterbodies Present on BLM lands in the Planning Area

Waterbody	Miles	Pollutant/s	Status ^a	Standards ^b met? (yes/no)	Functioning ^c Condition
Big Willow Creek	4.7	Temperature	TMDL	Yes	PFC
Little Willow Creek	2.9	Temperature	TMDL	Yes	FAR
Blacks Creek	0.5	Sediment, Bacteria	303(d)	Yes	PFC
Boise River	0.3	Temperature	303(d)	No Data	PFC
Cold Springs Creek	0.1	Sediment	TMDL	Yes	PFC
Cove Creek	5.3	Nutrient, Sediment	303(d)	Yes	FAR
Crane Creek	10.3	Sediment, Bacteria	TMDL	No	FAR
Grimes Creek	1.0	Temperature	TMDL	Yes	FAR
Hog Creek	3.0	Phosphorus	TMDL	Yes	FAR
Lime Creek	0.9	Temperature	TMDL	No	PFC
Little Canyon Creek	4.4	Sediment	303(d)	Yes	PFC
Little Weiser River	1.5	Temperature, Sediment	TMDL	No	FAR
Mores Creek	0.2	Sediment	TMDL	No	FAR
Scott Creek	1.5	Bacteria	303(d)	Yes	FAR
Anderson Creek	1.8	Bacteria	303(d)	Yes	PFC
Weiser River	7.3	Temperature, Sediment	TMDL	No	FAR
Wildhorse River	1.4	Temperature	TMDL	No	PFC
Grand Total	47.1	-	-	-	-

^aTMDL = Total Maximum Daily Loads Assigned, 303(d) = water quality limited reach with no TMDL assigned.
^bWater quality findings from BLM assessment and monitoring data.
^cStream functioning condition (TR-1737-15 Second Edition 2015).

Perennial streams on BLM administered lands that meet water quality standards are commonly (but not always) characterized by one or more of the following:

- Have PFC ratings;
- Streambank stability ≥80 percent;

- Vegetative canopy cover ≥ 60 percent, or equivalent/combined geologic shading or overhanging streambanks in salmonid bearing streams;
- Stream temperatures do not exceed natural background levels (at full potential);
- Bacterial levels are at low levels (e.g., bacteria ≤ 136 colonies/ml (30-day mean), and fine sediments < 30 percent in pools);
- Accessibility to livestock is limited due to dense vegetation, larger rocks, or other restrictive terrain characteristics; and/or
- Are not encumbered by upstream pollutant contributions (*E. coli*, high water temperatures).

Perennial streams on BLM administered lands that do not meet water quality standards are commonly (but not always) characterized by one or more of the following:

- May have FAR or nonfunctional (NF) functioning condition ratings;
- Streambank stability < 70 percent;
- Fine sediment in pools > 30 percent;
- Vegetative canopy cover or equivalent/combined geologic shading, or overhanging banks in salmonid bearing streams < 50 percent;
- Stream temperatures are elevated beyond natural background levels;
- Bacterial levels (*E. coli*) > 136 colonies/ml (30-day mean);
- Excessive erosion rates resulting from historic channel straightening (e.g., portions of Little Weiser and Weiser River in agricultural areas);
- Have large storage reservoirs upstream (e.g., Crane Creek Reservoir);
- Excessive sediment, nutrient, thermal, or pesticide contribution as a direct result of upstream flood irrigation return flows; and/or
- Feedlots or other animal concentration are present upstream.

AQUATIC RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Introduction

The Four Rivers RMP Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (ARMS) provides guidance and programmatic direction for riparian and aquatic conservation and restoration and is integrated with other management direction. Conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and habitats at risk of degradation should be considered together with the full array of broad-scale ecosystem components addressed by the strategy, which include the following: landscape dynamics, terrestrial source habitats, aquatic species, and riparian and hydrologic processes. Management direction will balance short-term risks with long-term benefits as actions are considered to move these resources toward a natural variability of conditions or desired conditions.

The key components of the Four Rivers RMP Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy are as follows:

- Aquatic and riparian management direction (for example, goals and objectives);
- Establishment of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs), which are areas where aquatic and riparian dependent resources receive management emphasis;
- Protection of all existing populations and critical aquatic habitats of threatened bull trout (16 stream-miles) and sensitive inland redband trout (171 stream-miles);
- Restoration priorities and guidance will be identified for geographic areas and by general type; and
- Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) and Best Management Practices (BMPs), which are applicable to all RHCAs and to projects and activities in areas outside of RHCAs that are identified through NEPA analysis as potentially degrading to RHCAs and desired conditions.

Aquatic and Riparian Goals and Objectives

The goals establish an expectation of the characteristics of healthy, functioning watersheds, riparian areas, and associated aquatic habitats. Since the quality of water and fish habitat in aquatic systems are inseparably related to the integrity of riparian areas within the watersheds, the goals are to maintain, strive towards, or restore the following:

Goals

- Upland and riparian conditions will support PFC streams and related water quality consistent with the State of Idaho's water quality standards;
- Soil and watershed conditions will be maintained or restored to promote soil stability, watershed health, and biotic integrity;
- Native forest, rangeland, and riparian and wetland plant communities will be healthy and vigorous;
- The distribution, abundance, and quality of fish and wildlife habitats will be maintained or improved to provide food, cover, and space for healthy populations of game and non-game species; and
- Fish and wildlife habitat connectivity will be improved and fragmentation reduced.

Objectives

- Riparian and wetland vegetation and structure, and associated stream channels and floodplains will be in, or making progress towards, proper functioning condition to promote good water quality;
- All riparian and wetland areas will meet the Rangeland Health Standards for proper functioning condition (PFC) to sustain a diversity of riparian-dependent species;

- Soils will be managed to minimize erosion;
- Desired native plant communities will be maintained or improved to provide for wildlife and fisheries needs;
- Vegetative projects will be designed to minimize potentially adverse impacts and improve wildlife habitat; and
- Livestock grazing management will be adjusted where necessary to protect newly listed Threatened and Endangered aquatic species, as well as species formally proposed for listing.

Aquatic and Riparian Management Direction

The BLM has jurisdiction of 16 miles of bull trout habitat and 171 miles of redband trout habitat in the Four Rivers PA. Due to the limited special status fish habitat in the PA, the management direction focuses on protecting all habitat under BLM jurisdiction for aquatic special status and narrow range endemic species and does not differentiate between conservation watersheds and population strongholds.

Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas

RHCAs are portions of watersheds where riparian-dependent resources receive primary emphasis and management activities are subject to specific standards and guidelines. However, they are not intended to be treated as no management zones, since treatments may be essential to achieving or maintaining desired riparian and aquatic conditions. This strategy allows for adjustment to RHCAs to reflect specific site conditions, while also recognizing watershed riparian conditions and trends.

RHCA Widths

RHCAs are portions of watersheds where riparian-dependent resources receive primary emphasis and management activities are subject to specific standards and guidelines. RHCAs are lands that are most sensitive to uses that are likely to affect the condition and/or function of aquatic habitat, and include areas adjacent to streams, ponds, lakes, and wetlands. The dimensions of such lands and uses that promote or do not preclude achievement of functional conditions may be best defined by site-specific analysis or watershed analysis. In the absence of such analysis, the following default RHCA widths apply.

Category 1- Fish-bearing streams: RHCAs consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream. This area extends from the edges of the active channel to the top of the inner gorge, to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, 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.

Category 2- Perennial non-fish-bearing streams: RHCAs consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream. This area extends from the edges of the active channel to the top of the inner gorge, to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, 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- Natural ponds, lakes, reservoirs, and wetlands greater than one acre: RHCAs consist of the body of water or wetland and the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, to the extent of the seasonally saturated soil, 150 feet slope distance from the edge of the maximum pool elevation of natural ponds and lakes, or from the edge of the wetland, pond, or lake, whichever is greatest.

RHCA Delineation and Modification

Specific default RHCA widths apply unless a watershed analysis or site-specific (local) analysis has been completed. Modification of RHCAs requires watershed or site-specific analysis to provide the ecological basis for the change or may be specific to land uses taking place or proposed to take place within the RHCA.

RHCA Delineation

To promote or maintain desired conditions or objectives, default RHCA widths identify areas where riparian and aquatic dependent resources receive emphasis for management. The default RHCA widths generally provide proper and adequate dimensions to address primary influence areas that may affect key riparian and aquatic processes. It is acknowledged that RHCA modification and delineation needs to consider ecological and geomorphic factors, which vary across the Four Rivers PA. Delineation of site specific or specific watershed RHCAs requires fine-scale application of appropriate criteria using a two-tier approach.

The first tier involves identification of ecological and geomorphic delineation criteria. This is done by applying a protocol identified through a watershed analysis and/or site-specific analysis, or a programmatic planning analysis. This analysis is intended to provide the context needed to understand riparian area interactions and processes.

The second tier applies the criteria from the first-tier analysis to specific areas on the ground in conjunction with proposed management activities.

Conceptually, the first-tier analysis results in identification of ecologically appropriate RHCA criteria by using existing information to characterize the extent, conditions, and trends of riparian areas within the analysis area. This analysis identifies dominant physical and biological features in the watershed that influence the riparian network and addresses important biophysical functions and processes. The issues associated with the riparian system, including past, current, and potential future management emphases, are used to ascertain the rigor and depth of analysis needed. The resulting information is synthesized and interpreted using a process in which potential criteria are examined and selected or eliminated based on their appropriateness to meet the overall intent of aquatic and riparian management objectives at the finer scale.

The overall intent of the first-tier analysis is to document relationships between key riparian processes and functions and ecological and/or geomorphic factors (such as shade and site potential tree height), which should help to appropriately identify RHCAs. Default widths will be used to delineate RHCAs, until the first-tier analysis has been completed.

The second tier applies the RHCA criteria to specific areas on the ground while designing and planning proposed management decisions. The intent is that the associated site-specific analysis and decision will disclose how the criteria will be used to delineate RHCAs on the ground and the degree to which they provide for riparian processes and functions and contribute to meeting aquatic and riparian management objectives. Any necessary site-specific refinements of the criteria will also be noted in the analysis and decision document.

RHCA Modification

RHCAs may be modified by amendment in the absence of watershed analysis where stream reach or site-specific data support the change. Watershed analysis or site-specific analysis is not a decision process; it will provide information for ecologically appropriate criteria that will support site-specific analysis and determination on RHCA delineation. In all cases, the rationale

supporting RHCA widths and their effects will be documented. Refer to previous listed important values for managing RHCAs; pertinent site-specific, stream reach, and watershed values (e.g., desired conditions, Watershed and Aquatic Condition Indicators, specific riparian or aquatic characteristics, slope, soils, etc.) need to be specifically addressed in supporting rationale for modifying RHCAs and land uses occurring in these areas.

During watershed analysis and/or site-specific analysis or through the appropriate programmatic planning processes, default RHCA dimensions may be modified with site specific analysis and determination of land uses that are consistent with the RHCA management intent and the attainment of RHCA management objectives, such as desired conditions.

These criteria shall be identified using scientific information in combination with local knowledge and information on riparian and aquatic processes and functions, resource values, and risks (first tier). Application of criteria to delineate RHCAs shall occur during project-level planning or implementation for management activities that could affect attainment of RHCA objectives (second tier). Rationale for identifying final RHCA delineation criteria shall be presented through the appropriate analysis making process.

Protection of Population Strongholds for Aquatic Special Status and Narrow Range Endemic Species

As described above, all habitats under BLM jurisdiction for aquatic special status and narrow range endemic species will be protected, and there is no differentiation between conservation watersheds and population strongholds.

Management Direction Designed to Protect Aquatics Habitats and Water Quality

Standard Operating Procedures:

- Implementation of water resource objectives and maintenance or improvement of existing water quality will continue. Public lands adjacent to stream segments that are not meeting State of Idaho water quality standards and/or Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) will be managed to produce an upward trend in the structure and composition of key riparian/wetland vegetation, as well as the desired physical characteristics of the stream channel;
- Mechanical impacts on the soil surface will be minimized through proper timing (after spring wet period) and duration; for type of authorized use; and with regard to soil type, moisture content, and biological soil crust vulnerability;
- Vegetation treatments will be consistent with the most current BLM management policy or guidance;
- All herbicides will be applied with strict adherence to label stipulations and Boise District policy;
- Stream herbicide application buffers will be applied according to the following minimum distances: 15 feet (hand application), 25 feet (vehicle application), or 100 feet (aerial application); and
- Priority will be given to meeting emergency needs in watersheds due to flooding or wildland fire.

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Appendix G – Fluid Mineral Leasing Stipulations

Appendix G – Fluid Mineral Leasing Stipulations

The following are mineral leasing stipulations to be applied, as appropriate, to parcels if offered for fluid mineral leasing. A lease stipulation is a condition of lease issuance that provides protection for other resource values or land uses by restricting lease operation during certain times or locations, or to avoid unacceptable impacts, to an extent greater than standard lease terms or regulations. A stipulation is an enforceable term of the lease contract, which supersedes any inconsistent provisions of the standard lease form and is attached to and made a part of the lease. Stipulations further implement the Bureau's regulatory authority to protect known resources or resource values. Lease stipulations are developed during the land use planning process. The special stipulations may be used on a site-specific basis. Their use and details, such as dates and buffer sizes may vary through the alternatives. When processing an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) or other related use authorization on a lease, the stipulations must be reviewed in the site-specific NEPA analysis conducted for approval of the APD or use authorization. If it is determined that a stipulation is no longer justified or if the proposed operations will not cause unacceptable impacts, the BLM may consider granting an exception, modification, or waiver in accordance with procedures outlined in 43 CFR 3101.1-4.

DESCRIPTION OF STIPULATIONS

No Surface Occupancy (NSO): NSO areas are closed to any surface-disturbing activity, including drilling and the placement of surface facilities.

Timing Limitation Stipulations (TLS) (Seasonal Restrictions): Areas with seasonal restrictions are open for leasing but surface-disturbing activities will not be allowed during identified time frames. Activity is subject to restraints during the time period specified in the stipulation description. This stipulation will not apply to operation and maintenance activities, unless otherwise specified.

Controlled Surface Use (CSU): CSU areas are open for leasing but will require proposals for surface-disturbing activities to be authorized only according to the controls or constraints specified.

EXCEPTIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND WAIVERS

The definitions for exceptions, modifications, and waivers are as follows:

Exception: A one-time exemption for a particular site within the leasehold; exceptions are determined on a case-by-case basis; the stipulation continues to apply to all other sites within the leasehold.

Modification: A change to the provisions of a lease stipulation, either temporarily or for the term of the lease. Depending on the specific modification, the stipulation may or may not apply to all sites within the leasehold to which the restrictive criteria are applied. The lessee must be able to demonstrate the operations can be conducted without causing unacceptable impacts, and that less restrictive stipulations will protect the public interest. Alternatively, BLM may show that circumstances or relative resource values have changed.

Waiver: A permanent exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation no longer applies anywhere within the leasehold.

STANDARD LEASING TERMS

Standard leasing terms for oil and gas are found on BLM Form 3100-11, *Offer to Lease and Lease for Oil and Gas Form 3100-11*. Section 6 of the lease form states:

Lessee must conduct operations in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts on the land, air, and water, to cultural, biological, visual, and other resources, and to other land uses or users. Lessee must take reasonable measures deemed necessary by lessor to accomplish the intent of this section. To the extent consistent with lease rights granted, such measures may include, but are not limited to, modification to siting or design of facilities, timing of operations, and specification of interim and final reclamation measures. Lessor reserves the right to continue existing uses and to authorize future uses upon or in the leased lands, including the approval of easements or rights-of-way. Such uses must be conditioned so as to prevent unnecessary or unreasonable interference with the rights of the lessee.

Prior to disturbing the surface of the leased lands, lessee must contact lessor to be apprised of procedures to be followed and modifications or reclamation measures that may be necessary. Areas to be disturbed may require inventories or special studies to determine the extent of impacts on other resources. Lessee may be required to complete minor inventories or short-term special studies under guidelines provided by lessor. If in the conduct of operations, threatened or endangered species, objects of historic or scientific interest, or substantial unanticipated environmental effects are observed, lessee must immediately contact lessor. Lessee must cease any operations that will result in the destruction of such species or objects.

Standard terms for geothermal leasing can be found in *Offer to Lease and Lease for Geothermal Resources (Form 3200-24)* and are very similar to those described above for oil and gas leasing.

Powersite Stipulation (*Form No. 3730-1*) is to be used on all lands within powersite reservations.

Any proposed post-lease activities shall be subject to the stipulations attached to and made part of the lease; Federal regulations at 43 CFR 3100 (for oil and gas), 43 CFR 3200 (for geothermal), or 43 CFR 3500 (for solid leasables), including mandatory bonding and applicable Onshore Orders.

To the extent consistent with lease rights granted, BLM may impose reasonable measures (conditions of approval) to operational aspects of oil and gas development to control the manner and pace of development including modification of siting or design of facilities, timing of operations, and specifying interim or final reclamation measures, provided that they do not require relocation of proposed operations by more than 200 meters, require that operations be sited off the leasehold, or prohibit new surface disturbing operations for a period in excess of 60 days in any lease year. BLM may impose reasonable measures (conditions of approval) to operational aspects of oil and gas development to control the manner and pace of development including modification of siting or design of facilities, timing of operations, and specifying interim or final reclamation measures.

At a minimum, the BLM will attach the following three mandatory stipulations to any mineral lease that is offered within the PA:

CULTURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION STIPULATION

This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), EO 13007, or other statutes and EOs. The BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations (e.g., State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Tribal consultation) under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such

properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized, or mitigated.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SECTION 7 CONSULTATION STIPULATION

The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. The BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective in order to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. The BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed Threatened or Endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. The BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

WATER QUALITY

The lessee is given notice that, at the time of development, drilling operators will additionally conform to the operational regulations in: 1) Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2 which requires the protection of all usable quality waters; 2) Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 7 which prescribes measures required for the handling of produced water to ensure the protection of surface and ground water sources; and 3) the *Surface Operating Standards and Guidelines for Oil and Gas Exploration and Development (The Gold Book, Fourth Edition—Revised 2016, or latest edition)* which provides information and requirements for conducting environmentally responsible oil and gas operations. Additional mitigation measures may be necessary to prevent adverse impacts from oil and gas exploration and development activities. Mitigation measures may include submittal of an erosion and sediment control plan with best management practices that address sediment and water control with interim and final reclamation. Project activities in sensitive areas, or near water sources, may require a semi or closed-loop drilling system.

Table G-1. Special Leasing Stipulations and Conditions for Granting Exceptions, Modifications, and Waivers of Allocations

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect Historic Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	10 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>NSO or use is allowed within historic properties listed in the NRHP for the purpose of protecting historic properties.</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action is of a scale, sited in a location, or otherwise designed so it will not be placed within the actual boundaries of or will not disturb the site within the defined NSO area.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> The BLM authorized officer may modify the stipulation in consultation with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), applicable Tribes, and other interested parties, if the site is no longer considered eligible under the NRHP or, if in consultation with SHPO, applicable Tribes, and other interested parties, it is determined that the identified property’s sacred, spiritual, and/or traditional values have been downgraded and/or the Tribes have reduced the previous avoidance distance around the site.</p> <p><u>Waiver:</u> The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined in consultation with SHPO, applicable Tribes, and other interested parties, that the identified site is no longer considered sacred, spiritual, and/or traditional.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect cultural resources identified under the National Historic Preservation Act, American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, EO 13007, or other statutes and EOs.
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	-
Stipulation Description	<p>NSO or use is allowed within the boundaries of cultural resources protected under the NHPA, AIRFA, NAGPRA, EO 13007, or other statutes and EOs. The BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations (e.g., State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Tribal consultation) under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized, or mitigated.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action is of a scale, sited in a location, or otherwise designed so it will not be placed within the actual boundaries of or will not disturb the site within the defined NSO area.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the stipulation in consultation with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), applicable Tribes, and other interested parties if the site is no longer considered eligible under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or if, in consultation with SHPO, applicable Tribes, and other interested parties it is determined that the identified property’s sacred, spiritual, and/or traditional values have been downgraded and/or the Tribes have reduced the previous avoidance distance around the site.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined in consultation with SHPO, applicable Tribes, and other interested parties, that the identified site is no longer considered sacred, spiritual, and/or traditional.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect slopes greater than 40 percent
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	122,400 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface disturbance is restricted on slopes greater than 40 percent. Prior to surface disturbance on slopes greater than 40 percent a site-specific construction, stabilization, and reclamation plan (Plan) must be submitted to the BLM by the applicant as a component of the APD (BLM Form 3160-3) or Sundry Notice (BLM Form 3160-5) – Surface Use Plan of Operations. The Plan must include designs approved and stamped by a licensed engineer. The operator shall not initiate surface-disturbing activities unless the BLM authorized officer has approved the Plan (with conditions, as appropriate). The Plan must demonstrate to the BLM authorized officer’s satisfaction how the operator will meet the following performance standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slope stability is maintained preventing slope failure or mass wasting. • The disturbed area will be stabilized with no evidence of accelerated erosion features. • The disturbed area shall be managed to ensure soil characteristics approximate an appropriate reference site with regard to erosional features to maintain soil productivity and sustainability. • Sufficient viable topsoil is maintained for ensuring successful final reclamation. At locations where interim reclamation will be completed, this will be accomplished by re-spreading all salvaged topsoil over the areas of interim reclamation. • The original landform and site productivity will be partially restored during interim reclamation and fully restored as a result of final reclamation. <p>On lands as mapped by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 1:24,000 scale topographic maps, USGS Digital Elevation Models, and/or as determined by a BLM evaluation of the area, for the purpose of ensuring successful reclamation and erosion control on slopes greater than 40 percent in order to meet the standards outlined in Chapter 6 of the BLM’s Oil and Gas Gold Book, as revised.</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action will not result in a failure to meet the performance standards above, or a BLM evaluation determines that the disturbed area is not located on slopes greater than 40 percent.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a BLM evaluation of the area. The stipulation and performance standards identified above may be modified based on monitoring results.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
	Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not include slopes greater than 40 percent. This determination shall be based upon USGS mapping and/or BLM evaluation of the area.

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect soils with a severe erosion hazard rating
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	46,930 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface disturbance is restricted on soils with a severe erosion hazard rating.</p> <p>Prior to surface disturbance on soils with a severe erosion hazard rating a site-specific construction, stabilization, and reclamation plan (Plan) must be submitted to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) by the applicant as a component of the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) (BLM Form 3160-3) or Sundry Notice (BLM Form 3160-5) – Surface Use Plan of Operations. The operator shall not initiate surface-disturbing activities unless the BLM authorized officer has approved the Plan (with conditions, as appropriate). The Plan must demonstrate to the BLM authorized officer’s satisfaction how the operator will meet the following performance standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disturbed area will be stabilized with no evidence of accelerated erosion features. • The disturbed area shall be managed to ensure soil characteristics approximate an appropriate reference site with regard to erosional features to maintain soil productivity and sustainability. • Sufficient viable topsoil is maintained for ensuring successful final reclamation. At locations where interim reclamation will be completed, this will be accomplished by re-spreading all salvaged topsoil over the areas of interim reclamation. • The original landform and site productivity will be partially restored during interim reclamation and fully restored as a result of final reclamation. <p>On lands as mapped by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) Order 3 soil survey and/or as determined by a BLM evaluation of the area, for the purpose of ensuring successful reclamation and erosion control on soils with a severe erosion hazard rating in order to meet the standards outlined in Chapter 6 of the BLM’s Oil and Gas Gold Book, as revised.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action will not result in a failure to meet the</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
	<p>performance standards above or a BLM evaluation determines that the affected soils do not meet the severe erosion hazard rating criteria.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a NRCS soil survey or BLM evaluation. The stipulation and performance standards identified above may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not include soils with severe erosion hazard. This determination shall be based upon NRCS mapping and/or BLM evaluation of the area.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect soils with limited reclamation potential
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	-
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface disturbance is prohibited or restricted on limited reclamation potential areas such as areas possessing sensitive geologic formations, extremely limiting soil conditions, biological soil crusts, badlands, rock outcrops, and slopes susceptible to mass failure. CSU (1): (a) Prior to surface disturbance on limited reclamation potential areas a site-specific construction, stabilization, and reclamation plan (Plan) must be submitted to the BLM by the applicant as a component of the APD (BLM Form 3160-3) or Sundry Notice (BLM Form 3160-5) – Surface Use Plan of Operations. The Plan must include designs approved and stamped by a licensed engineer. The operator shall not initiate surface-disturbing activities unless the BLM authorized officer has approved the Plan (with conditions, as appropriate). The Plan must demonstrate to the BLM authorized officer’s satisfaction how the operator will meet the following performance standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disturbed area will be stabilized with no evidence of accelerated erosion features. • The disturbed area shall be managed to ensure soil characteristics approximate an appropriate reference site with regard to erosional features to maintain soil productivity and sustainability. • Slope stability is maintained preventing slope failure and erosion. • Sufficient viable topsoil is maintained for ensuring successful final reclamation. At locations where interim reclamation will be completed, this will be accomplished by re-spreading all salvaged topsoil over the areas of interim reclamation.

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The original landform and site productivity will be partially restored during interim reclamation and fully restored as a result of final reclamation. <p>On lands as mapped by the NRCS SSURGO Order 3 soil survey or as determined by a BLM evaluation of the area. For the purpose of ensuring successful reclamation and erosion control on limited reclamation potential areas in order to meet the standards outlined in Chapter 6 of the BLM’s Oil and Gas Gold Book, as revised.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action will not result in a failure to meet the performance standards above or a BLM evaluation determines that the area does not meet the limited reclamation criteria.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a NRCS soil survey and BLM evaluation. The stipulation and performance standards identified above may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not include limited reclamation potential areas. This determination shall be based upon NRCS mapping and BLM evaluation.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect 100-year floodplains
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	3,280 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>No surface occupancy or use allowed within the active channel or 100-year floodplain. On lands as mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and/or as determined by a BLM evaluation of the area, for the purpose of ensuring protection of floodplains.</p> <p>Exception: None</p> <p>Modification: None</p> <p>Waiver: None</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect lands within 500-feet of perennial streams, riparian areas, wetlands, springs, and irrigation ditches/canals
Stipulation Type	NSO

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
RMP Acres Affected	79,600 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>For the purpose of preventing watershed damage, no occupancy or other surface disturbance will be allowed within 500 feet of intermittent and perennial streams, rivers, riparian areas, wetlands, springs, and irrigation ditches/canals.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action will not result in a failure to meet the performance standards above.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a USGS National Hydrologic Inventory and/or BLM evaluation, in coordination with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and the stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within 500 feet of perennial streams, riparian areas, wetlands springs, or irrigation ditches/canals. This determination shall be based upon USGS National Hydrologic Inventory and/or BLM evaluation, in coordination with the Idaho DEQ.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect air quality through fugitive dust control
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	All
Stipulation Description	<p>A Fugitive Dust Control Plan is required for mineral activities that will disturb a surface area larger than 0.25 acres or that will involve truck traffic on unpaved or untreated surfaces.</p> <p>Exception: None</p> <p>Modification: The authorized officer may modify the stipulation as a result of new information if: 1) the protection provided by the stipulation is no longer justified or necessary to meet resource objectives established in the Four Rivers RMP; 2) the protection provided by the stipulation is no longer sufficient to meet resource objectives established in the Four Rivers RMP; or 3) proposed operations will not cause unacceptable impacts. The authorized officer may require additional plans of development, surveys, mitigation proposals, or environmental analysis, and may be required to consult with other government agencies and/or the public in order to make this determination. The modification may be subject to public review for at least a 30-day period.</p> <p>Waiver: None</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect air quality and to mitigate any potential impact mineral development emissions may have on regional ozone formation
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	All
Stipulation Description	<p>All drilling and production operations are required to adhere to the following minimum standards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drill rig engines must meet Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Tier II or better standards, as necessary based on air quality conditions or projections, and consistent with the most stringent EPA emissions standards that are in force at the time of installation or approval. 2. Stationary internal combustion engine standard of 2g NOx/bhp-hr for engines <300HP and 1g NOx/bhp-hr for engines >300 HP. 3. Low bleed or no bleed pneumatic controller. 4. Dehydrator VOC emission controls to +95 percent efficiency. 5. Tank VOC emission controls to +95 percent efficiency equivalent to New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) subpart 0000. <p>Exception: None</p> <p>Modification: The authorized officer may modify the stipulation as a result of new information if: 1) the protection provided by the stipulation is no longer justified or necessary to meet resource objectives established in the Four Rivers RMP; 2) the protection provided by the stipulation is no longer sufficient to meet resource objectives established in the Four Rivers RMP; or 3) proposed operations will not cause unacceptable impacts. The authorized officer may require additional plans of development, surveys, mitigation proposals, or environmental analysis, and may be required to consult with other government agencies and/or the public in order to make this determination. The modification may be subject to public review for at least a 30-day period.</p> <p>Waiver: None</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect paleontological resources
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	Areas with Possible Fossil Yield Classification Class 4 or 5
Stipulation Description	The lessee is hereby notified that prior to any surface disturbing activities, an inventory of paleontological resources (fossils) may be required. Mitigation may be required such as monitoring in any area of Probable Fossil Yield Classification (PFYC) 4 or 5 and also upon the discovery of any vertebrate fossil or other scientifically important paleontological

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
	<p>resource. Mitigation of scientifically important paleontological resources may include avoidance, monitoring, collection, excavation, or sampling. Mitigation of discovered scientifically important paleontological resources may require the relocation of the surface disturbance activity over 200 meters. Inventory and any subsequent mitigation shall be conducted by a BLM permitted paleontologist.</p> <p>Exception: None</p> <p>Modification: The authorized officer could modify the stipulation if it is determined that the project area is not located within a PFYC Class 4 or 5 area.</p> <p>Waiver: The authorized officer could waive the stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not located within a PFYC Class 4 or 5 area.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-02
Resource Objective	To protect migratory birds
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	-
Stipulation Description	<p>Avoid or minimize disruption of migratory bird nesting activity by siting or prioritizing vegetation clearing, facility construction, and concentrated operational activities (e.g., drilling, completion, utility installation) to avoid the involvement of higher value migratory bird habitats, particularly during the core migratory bird nesting season (April 1–July 15).</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if a staff review determines that the action will not disturb migratory bird nesting activity. This determination shall be based upon field study by a qualified representative, subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation including topography, visibility, disturbance and human activity levels, and other factors. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results. The determination shall be based upon field studies of the area by a qualified representative and subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not contain migratory bird nests. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p>

Management Direction	MD-MR-06
Protected Resource	To protect groundwater resources
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	All
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following special operating constraints. Oil and gas operations using multi-stage hydraulic fracturing shall use the following measures to protect potentially usable water bearing intervals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all directions a minimum of 2,500 feet of buffer distance (or greater if deemed necessary by BLM) between the well bore (production string) and the lower extent of shallow (<2,000 feet), potentially usable groundwater (<10,000 total dissolved solids) aquifer, shall be maintained so that fractures from the hydraulic fracturing process do not intersect shallow aquifers. • Operators are required to acquire all appropriate federal, state, and/or local licenses and/or permits. <p><u>Exception:</u> None</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> The authorized officer may modify the stipulation as a result of new information if: 1) the protection provided by the stipulation is no longer justified or necessary to meet resource objectives established in the Four Rivers RMP; 2) the protection provided by the stipulation is no longer sufficient to meet resource objectives established in the Four Rivers RMP; or 3) proposed operations will not cause unacceptable impacts. The authorized officer may require additional plans of development, surveys, mitigation proposals, or environmental analysis, and may be required to consult with other government agencies and/or the public in order to make this determination. The modification may be subject to public review for at least a 30-day period.</p> <p><u>Waiver:</u> None</p>

Management Allocation	AL-MR-05
Protected Resource	To protect critical groundwater areas
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	82,000
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface occupancy or use is not allowed within critical groundwater areas as defined by Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR).</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> None</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> None</p> <p><u>Waiver:</u> None</p>

Management Direction	MD-SSS-06
Resource Objective	To protect Bald Eagle nests
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	2,140 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from February 1 to July 31 within one mile of active bald eagle nests as mapped on the FRFO geographic information system (GIS) database or determined by field evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG and/or USFWS.</p> <p>For the purpose of ensuring productivity of bald eagles.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if a staff review determines that the action will not disturb nesting bald eagles. This determination shall be based upon field study by a qualified representative, subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation including topography, visibility, disturbance and human activity levels, and other factors. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results. The determination shall be based upon field studies of the area by a qualified representative and subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within one mile of a bald eagle nest. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p>

Management Direction	MD-SSS-06
Resource Objective	To protect Burrowing Owl nests
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	1,040 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from February 1 to July 31 within 0.25-mile of active burrowing owl nests as mapped on the FRFO GIS database or determined by field evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG and/or USFWS.</p> <p>For the purpose of ensuring productivity of burrowing owls.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if a staff review determines that the action will not disturb nesting burrowing owls. This determination shall be based upon field study by a qualified representative, subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation including topography, visibility, disturbance and human activity levels, and other factors. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results. The determination shall be based upon field studies of the area by a qualified representative and subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within 0.25-mile of a burrowing owl nest. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p>

Management Direction	MD-SSS-06
Resource Objective	To protect Ferruginous Hawk nests
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	28,100 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from February 1 to July 31 within one mile of active ferruginous hawk nests as mapped on the FRFO GIS database or determined by field evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG and/or USFWS.</p> <p>For the purpose of ensuring productivity of ferruginous hawks.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if a staff review determines that the action will not disturb nesting ferruginous hawks. This determination shall be based upon field study</p>

Management Direction	MD-SSS-06
	<p>by a qualified representative, subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation including topography, visibility, disturbance and human activity levels, and other factors. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results. The determination shall be based upon field studies of the area by a qualified representative and subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within 1.0 mile of a ferruginous hawk nest. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p>

Management Direction	MD-SSS-06
Resource Objective	To protect Golden Eagle nests
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	3,680 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from February 1 to July 31 within 0.5-mile of active golden eagle nests as mapped on the FRFO GIS database or determined by field evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG and/or USFWS.</p> <p>For the purpose of ensuring productivity of golden eagles.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if a staff review determines that the action will not disturb nesting golden eagles. This determination shall be based upon field study by a qualified representative, subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation including topography, visibility, disturbance and human activity levels, and other factors. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results. The determination shall be based upon field studies of the area by a qualified representative and subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within 0.5- mile of a golden eagle nest. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p>

Management Direction	MD-SSS-06
Resource Objective	To protect Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse nests
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	54,680 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from March 1 to May 15 within 3.1 miles of the perimeter of occupied Columbian sharp-tailed grouse leks as mapped by the IDFG and evaluated by the BLM. For the purpose of ensuring the function and suitability of sharp-tailed grouse nesting habitat.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action will not affect reproductive displays, nest attendance, egg or chick survival, or early brood-rearing success. Actions designed to enhance the long-term utility or availability of suitable Columbian sharp-tailed grouse habitat may be exempted from this timing limitation. The determination may include coordination with the IDFG, so that granting an exception will not adversely impact the population being protected.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the size and shape of the TLS area or the TLS criteria if it is determined that the actual habitat suitability for seasonal Columbian sharp-tailed grouse activities is greater or less than the stipulated area, or it is identified through scientific research or monitoring that the existing criteria are inadequate or overly protective for maintaining the function or utility of the site for the seasonal habitat, life-history, or behavioral needs of the Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, including (but not limited to) reproductive display, daytime loafing/staging activities, and nesting.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined, in coordination with the IDFG, that the described lands are incapable of serving the long-term requirements of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse breeding, nesting, and early brood-rearing habitat.</p>

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse Important Habitat Management Area (IHMA)
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	83,270 acres
Stipulation Description	Important Habitat Management Areas (IHMA) will be open to mineral leasing and development and geophysical exploration subject to NSO to protect Greater Sage-grouse (GRSG) habitat in IHMA.

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
	<p>Exception: The authorized officer may grant an exception to a fluid mineral lease NSO stipulation only where the proposed action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Would not have direct, indirect, or cumulative effects on GRSG or its habitat; or, ii. Is proposed to be undertaken as an alternative to a similar action occurring on a nearby parcel or the State of Idaho recommends the project goes forward, based on its determination that the action will not result in a net loss to Greater Sage-grouse habitat. <p>Exceptions based on the goal of achieving no net loss may only be considered: (a) in priority habitat management areas (PHMA) of mixed ownership where federal minerals underlie less than 50 percent of the total surface, or (b) in areas of the public lands where the proposed exception is an alternative to an action occurring on a nearby parcel subject to a valid federal fluid mineral lease existing as of the date of this Approved Plan. Exceptions based on the no net loss goal must also include measures, such as enforceable institutional controls and buffers, sufficient to allow the BLM to conclude that such benefits will endure for the duration of the proposed action’s impacts.</p> <p>Any exceptions to this lease stipulation may be approved by the BLM authorized officer, only with the concurrence of the BLM State Director. Approved exceptions will be made publicly available.</p> <p>Modification: None</p> <p>Waiver: None</p>

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse leks within Important Habitat Management Area (IHMA)
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	11,560 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>No surface occupancy is allowed within two miles of occupied Greater Sage-grouse leks.</p> <p>Exception: The authorized officer may grant an exception to a fluid mineral lease NSO stipulation only where it is impracticable, technically or economically to locate the project outside of the buffer area and impacts are avoided through project siting and design to the extent reasonable or impacts are minor or non-existent. A justifiable departure to decrease this distance, based on local data, best available science, landscape features, and other existing protections (e.g., state regulations) may be appropriate for determining activity impacts.</p>

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
	Any exceptions to this lease stipulation may be approved by the BLM authorized officer, only with the concurrence of the BLM State Director. Approved exceptions will be made publicly available. <u>Modification:</u> None <u>Waiver:</u> None

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse leks within General Habitat Management Area (GHMA)
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	1,930 acres
Stipulation Description	Surface occupancy is prohibited within 0.6-miles of occupied Greater Sage-grouse leks. <u>Exception:</u> The authorized officer may grant an exception to a fluid mineral lease NSO stipulation only where it is impracticable, technically or economically to locate the project outside of the buffer area and impacts may be avoided through project siting and design to the extent reasonable or impacts are minor or non-existent. A justifiable departure to decrease this distance, based on local data, best available science, landscape features, and other existing protections (e.g., state regulations) may be appropriate for determining activity impacts. The authorized officer will coordinate with IDFG regarding any variations to buffer distances. <u>Modification:</u> None <u>Waiver:</u> None

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse leks within General Habitat Management Area (GHMA)
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	19,160 acres
Stipulation Description	Surface disturbance is restricted within two miles of occupied Greater Sage-grouse leks. <u>Exception:</u> The authorized officer may grant an exception to a fluid mineral lease CSU stipulation only where it is impracticable, technically or economically to locate the project outside of the buffer area and impacts are avoided through project siting and design to the extent

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
	reasonable or impacts are minor or non-existent. A justifiable departure to decrease this distance, based on local data, best available science, landscape features, and other existing protections (e.g., state regulations) may be appropriate for determining activity impacts. The authorized officer will coordinate with IDFG regarding any variations to buffer distances. <u>Modification:</u> None <u>Waiver:</u> None

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse habitat in IHMA and GHMA
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	468,760 acres
Stipulation Description	Avoid mechanized anthropogenic disturbance, in nesting habitat during the nesting season (March 1-June 15) and in wintering habitat during the winter season (November 1- February 28) when implementing infrastructure construction or maintenance. <u>Exception:</u> The BLM may grant an exception if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The stipulation is documented to not be applicable to the site-specific conditions of the project/activity, such as due to site limitations or engineering considerations. Economic considerations, such as increased costs, do not necessarily require that the stipulation be varied or rendered inapplicable; • The stipulation will provide no additional protection to Greater Sage-grouse or its habitat. <u>Modification:</u> None <u>Waiver:</u> None

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse leks in IHMA and GHMA
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	468,760 acres
Stipulation Description	No repeated or sustained behavioral disturbance from large scale infrastructure of facilities (e.g., visual, noise over 10 dbA at lek above ambient levels, etc.) to lekking birds from 6:00 pm to 9:00 am within 2-miles (3.2 km) of leks during the lekking season (approximately March 15-May 1 in lower elevations and March 25-May 15 in higher elevations).

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
	<p>Exception: The BLM may grant an exception if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The stipulation is documented to not be applicable to the site-specific conditions of the project/activity, such as due to site limitations or engineering considerations. Economic considerations, such as increased costs, do not necessarily require that the stipulation be varied or rendered inapplicable; • The stipulation will provide no additional protection to Greater Sage-grouse or its habitat; <p>Modification: None</p> <p>Waiver: None</p>

Management Designation	DE-SSS-01
Resource Objective	To protect Greater Sage-grouse General Habitat Management Areas (GHMA)
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	385,500 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Parcels will not be offered for lease if buffers and restrictions (including RDFs) preclude development in the leasing area.</p> <p>Exception: RDFs are continuously improving as new science and technology become available and therefore are subject to change. All variations in RDFs will require that at least one of the following be demonstrated in the NEPA analysis associated with the project/activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A specific RDF is documented to not be applicable to the site-specific conditions of the project/activity (e.g. due to site limitations or engineering considerations). Economic considerations, such as increased costs, do not necessarily require that an RDF be varied or rendered inapplicable; • An alternative RDF is determined to provide equal or better protection for GRSG or its habitat; • A specific RDF will provide no additional protection to GRSG or its habitat. <p>Modification: None</p> <p>Waiver: None</p>

Management Allocation	AL-SSS-02
Resource Objective	To protect Special Status Plants
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	15,010 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface disturbance is restricted within special status plant populations as mapped on the FRFO GIS database, or determined by BLM from field evaluation, in coordination with the USFWS for the purpose of protecting special status plant. Prior to surface disturbance within special status plant habitat, surveys must be conducted and a plan must be submitted to the BLM by the applicant as a component of the APD (BLM Form 3160-3) or Sundry Notice (BLM Form 3160-5)- Surface Use Plan or Operations. The operator shall not initiate surface-disturbing activities unless the BLM authorized officer has approved the Plan (with conditions as appropriate). The plan must demonstrate to the authorized officer’s satisfaction the special status plants will not be harmed.</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action is of a scale, sited in a location, or otherwise designed so that the action will not adversely affect special status plants.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a BLM evaluation, in coordination with the USFWS. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p><u>Waiver:</u> The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not contain a special status plant. This determination shall be based upon a BLM evaluation, in coordination with the USFWS.</p>

Management Allocation	AL-NT-04
Resource Objective	To retain characteristics and values associated with the Oregon Trail Protective Zone
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	24,910 acres

Management Allocation	AL-NT-04
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface occupancy or use will be prohibited within 0.25-miles of the trail.</p> <p>Exception: The authorized officer may grant an exception if surveys determine that other historic trail remnants are not present or it is determined that the section of trail is sufficiently compromised that the action will not result in an adverse effect to the trail.</p> <p>Modification: If surveys determine that a portion of the lease area does not contain contributing trail segments, then the stipulation may be modified. This determination shall be based upon field evaluation of the area by a qualified archaeologist/historian and subject to confirmation by the BLM.</p> <p>Waiver: The authorized officer may grant a waiver if surveys determine that the entire lease area does not contain contributing trail segments, then the stipulation may be waived. This determination shall be based upon field evaluation of the area by a qualified archaeologist/historian and subject to confirmation by the BLM.</p>

Management Allocation	AL-NT-04
Resource Objective	To retain characteristics and values associated with the Oregon Trail Management Corridor
Stipulation Type	CSU
RMP Acres Affected	137,700 acres

Management Allocation	AL-NT-04
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface occupancy or use will be restricted or prohibited within two miles from the Oregon National Historic Trail (NHT) or the visual horizon whichever is closer where setting is an important aspect of the integrity for the trail unless the operator and surface managing agency arrive at an acceptable plan for mitigation of anticipated impacts. The Plan must demonstrate proposed infrastructure is either not visible or will result in a weak contrast rating.</p> <p>Exception: The authorized officer may consider a lease stipulation exception within the Oregon Trail Management Corridor if 1) an action is at least two miles from the NHT, a significant NHT historical or recreational site, or NHT related recreational activities; or, 2) all components and effects of the action are in compliance with the RMP-designated VRM standard in consultation with appropriate federal agency. The proposal must be capable of attaining a no adverse-affect determination in consultation with SHPO.</p> <p>Modification: The authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation or surface occupancy criteria if it is determined by the BLM, after consultation with the appropriate federal and/or agency that a portion of the NSO area does not contribute, as determined by Section 106, to the trails' nature and purpose or their setting or if the proposed action can be developed in a way that meets the management objectives for the NHT. This determination shall be based upon field evaluation of the area by a qualified archaeologist/historian and subject to confirmation by the BLM.</p> <p>Waiver: The authorized officer may grant a waiver if it is determined, in consultation with the appropriate federal and/or state agency, that the area is no longer considered to contribute to the trails' nature and purpose or setting or if the proposed action can be developed in a way that meets the management objectives for the NHT. This determination shall be based upon field evaluation of the area by a qualified archaeologist/historian and subject to confirmation by the BLM.</p>

Management Allocation	AL-WSR-02
Resource Objective	To retain characteristics and values associated with the Wild and Scenic Rivers
Stipulation Type	NSO
RMP Acres Affected	6,630 acres

<p>Stipulation Description</p>	<p>No surface occupancy is permitted on lands within Wild and Scenic Rivers.</p> <p>Exception: Consider exceptions if exploration and development will not impair the outstandingly remarkable values of the WSR. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.</p> <p>Modification: The stipulated area may be modified by the authorized officer if the boundaries are changed. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.</p> <p>Waiver: A waiver may be granted if the restriction violates the leaseholder/operator lease rights. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.</p>
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<p>Management Allocation</p>	<p>AL-REC-02</p>
<p>Resource Objective</p>	<p>To retain characteristics and values associated with developed recreation sites within the Oxbow/Brownlee Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA)</p>
<p>Stipulation Type</p>	<p>NSO</p>
<p>RMP Acres Affected</p>	<p>880 acres</p>
<p>Stipulation Description</p>	<p>No surface occupancy or use is permitted on lands located within 0.5 miles of developed recreation sites within the Oxbow/Brownlee ERMA.</p> <p>Exception: An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the BLM authorized officer if the BLM determines that the function and utility of the recreational resources are not adversely affected.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the stipulation if the boundaries of recreational sites are changed or a portion of the lease area is determined not to be located within the viewshed of developed recreation sites.</p> <p>Waiver: This BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire leasehold is not within the viewshed of the developed recreation sites.</p>

<p>Management Allocation</p>	<p>AL-BF-ACEC-02</p>
<p>Resource Objective</p>	<p>To retain characteristics and values associated with the Boise Front Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)</p>
<p>Stipulation Type</p>	<p>NSO</p>
<p>RMP Acres Affected</p>	<p>15,080 acres</p>

<p>Stipulation Description</p>	<p>NSO or use is allowed within the Boise Front Area of Critical Environmental Concern on the lands as mapped or determined by BLM for the purpose of protecting the relevant and important values.</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action is of a scale, sited in a location, or otherwise designed so that the action will not result in a failure to protect the relevant and important values.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results, or if a portion of the lease is no longer located in the ACEC.</p> <p><u>Waiver:</u> The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not contain relevant and important ACEC values.</p>
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Management Allocation	AL-CST-ACEC-02
Resource Objective	To retain characteristics and values associated with the Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	18,660 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from March 1 to May 15 within 3.1 miles of the perimeter of occupied Columbian sharp-tailed grouse leks as mapped by the IDFG and evaluated by the BLM. For the purpose of ensuring the function and suitability of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse nesting habitat within the Hixon Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat ACEC.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if it is determined that the action will not affect reproductive displays, nest attendance, egg or chick survival, or early brood-rearing success. Actions designed to enhance the long-term utility or availability of suitable Columbian sharp-tailed grouse habitat may be exempted from this timing limitation. The determination may include coordination with the IDFG, so that granting an exception will not adversely impact the population being protected.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the size and shape of the TLS area or the TLS criteria if it is determined that the actual habitat suitability for seasonal Columbian sharp-tailed grouse activities is greater or less than the stipulated area, or it is identified through scientific research or monitoring that the existing criteria are inadequate or overly protective for maintaining the function or utility of the ACEC for the seasonal habitat, life-history, or behavioral needs of the Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, including (but not limited to) reproductive display, daytime loafing/staging activities, and nesting.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined, in coordination with the IDFG, that the described lands are incapable of serving the long-term requirements of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse breeding, nesting, and early brood-rearing habitat.</p>

Management Allocation	AL-LC-ACEC-03
Resource Objective	To protect Long-billed Curlew
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	26,810 acres

Management Allocation	AL-LC-ACEC-03
Stipulation Description	<p>Avoid or minimize disruption of long-billed curlew nesting activity by siting or prioritizing vegetation clearing, facility construction, and concentrated operational activities (e.g., drilling, completion, utility installation) to avoid the involvement of higher value habitats, particularly during the nesting season (March 1- June 30).</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if a staff review determines that the action will not disturb long-billed curlew nesting activity. This determination shall be based upon field study by a qualified representative, subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based on local evaluation including topography, visibility, disturbance and human activity levels, and other factors. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results. The determination shall be based upon field studies of the area by a qualified representative and subject to confirmation from BLM. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area does not contain long-billed curlew nests. Confirmation may include coordination with the IDFG or USFWS.</p>

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
Resource Objective	To protect mule deer winter range
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	345,270 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from November 15 to May 1 within mule deer winter range. On the lands described below:</p> <p>TLS as mapped by the IDFG and evaluated by the BLM. For the purpose of ensuring the function and suitability of mule deer winter ranges.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if the operator demonstrates that the winter habitat is not occupied during the period of concern, subject to confirmation by the IDFG and BLM; or it is determined that the action will not impair the function or suitability of the winter habitat.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a BLM evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG, to determine that the mule deer winter range is not present or</p>

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
	<p>boundaries of the subject winter range areas have been refined. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within mule deer winter range. This determination shall be based upon a BLM evaluation of the area, in coordination with IDFG.</p>

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
Resource Objective	To protect elk winter range
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	474,800 acres
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from November 15 to May 1 within elk winter range. On the lands described below:</p> <p>TLS as mapped by the IDFG and evaluated by the BLM. For the purpose of ensuring the function and suitability of elk winter ranges.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if the operator demonstrates that the crucial habitat is not occupied during the period of concern, subject to confirmation by the IDFG and BLM; or it is determined that the action will not impair the function or suitability of the winter habitat.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a BLM evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG, to determine that the elk winter range is not present or boundaries of the subject winter range areas have been refined. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within elk winter range. This determination shall be based upon a BLM evaluation of the area, in coordination with IDFG.</p>

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
Resource Objective	To protect pronghorn winter range
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	-

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from November 15 to May 1 within pronghorn winter range. On the lands described below:</p> <p>TLS as mapped by the IDFG and evaluated by the BLM. For the purpose of ensuring the function and suitability of pronghorn winter ranges.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if the operator demonstrates that the crucial habitat is not occupied during the period of concern, subject to confirmation by the IDFG and BLM; or it is determined that the action will not impair the function or suitability of the winter habitat.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a BLM evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG, to determine that the pronghorn winter range is not present or boundaries of the subject winter range areas have been refined. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p>Waiver: The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within pronghorn winter range. This determination shall be based upon a BLM evaluation of the area, in coordination with IDFG.</p>

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
Resource Objective	To protect bighorn sheep winter range
Stipulation Type	TLS
RMP Acres Affected	-
Stipulation Description	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities are prohibited or restricted from November 15 to May 1 within bighorn sheep winter range. On the lands described below:</p> <p>TLS as mapped by the IDFD and evaluated by the BLM. For the purpose of ensuring the function and suitability of bighorn sheep winter ranges.</p> <p>Exception: The BLM authorized officer may grant an exception if the operator demonstrates that the winter range is not occupied during the period of concern, subject to confirmation by the IDFG and BLM; or it is determined that the action will not impair the function or suitability of the winter range.</p> <p>Modification: The BLM authorized officer may modify the area subject to the stipulation based upon a BLM evaluation, in coordination with the IDFG, to determine that the bighorn sheep winter range is not present or</p>

Management Direction	MD-FW-07
	<p>boundaries of the subject winter range areas have been refined. The stipulation may be modified based on monitoring results.</p> <p><u>Waiver:</u> The BLM authorized officer may waive this stipulation if it is determined that the entire lease area is not within bighorn sheep winter range. This determination shall be based upon a BLM evaluation of the area, in coordination with IDFG.</p>

Appendix H - Recreation

Appendix H – Recreation

This appendix describes the management of Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs), Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs), and Backcountry Conservation Areas (BCAs) in the Approved RMP. Map 5 (Appendix A) portrays all areas.

Table H-1. Overview of Recreation Management Areas

Recreation Management Areas	Acres
Boise Front SRMA	25,260 acres
Payette River SRMA	1,610 acres
Brownlee/Oxbow ERMA	36,820 acres
Bennett Hills BCA	120,800 acres

Table H-2. Boise Front Special Recreation Management Area

OBJECTIVE(S)
<p>Objective Statement: Within the Boise Front SRMA, by the year 2035 and beyond, 80 percent of recreation assessment participants will indicate identified experiences and benefits mostly are realized (4 on scale of 1-5).</p>
<p>Activities: Non-motorized and motorized trail uses and wildlife viewing.</p> <p>Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoying physical exercise close-to-home in a natural setting; • Feeling that this community is a special place to live; • Appreciation of publicly owned open spaces; • Opportunity to escape urban pressures; • Enjoying easy access to natural landscapes; and • Enjoying risk-taking experiences. <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved mental and physical health; • Enhanced understanding and awareness of nature; • Greater community involvement in recreation and land management; • Increased desirability to live or retire in area; • Greater value-added local services/industry; and • Greater community ownership and stewardship of recreation and natural resources.
RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTIC DESCRIPTIONS
<p>Physical Components: Front Country – many areas >0.5 miles from roads, limited facilities development (primarily trails, parking, restrooms, interpretation), primarily non-motorized uses.</p> <p>Social Components: Front Country/Rural – 15-30+ encounters (especially on weekends), 1-5 people/group on average with periodic large groups (e.g., mountain bike groups), small areas of alteration prevalent – vegetation gone in well-used areas, people regularly heard.</p> <p>Operational Components: Middle Country – non-motorized use predominates with limited motorized use, staff periodically present, and area maps/brochures and rules/interpretation posted primarily at trailheads.</p>
MANAGEMENT DIRECTION AND ALLOWABLE USES
<p>Recreation and Visitor Services Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage area in coordination with cities, counties, State, and USFS through memoranda of understanding (MOU) and other mechanisms; • Permit competitive events and guiding on a case-by-case basis; • Do not permit commercial vending; and • Limit to day use. <p>Other Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-motorized and motorized use is limited. Route designation will occur through travel management planning. Implement seasonal closures to address resource concerns (saturated soils, big game winter use); • Retain scenic qualities while allowing for recreation developments (e.g., trails, trailheads, restrooms);

OBJECTIVE(S)
MANAGEMENT DIRECTION AND ALLOWABLE USES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoidance area for LUAs and mineral material disposal to maintain Front Country setting characteristics;• Closed to renewable energy development; and• Consider fuel breaks on a case-by-case basis while retaining scenic qualities.

Table H-3. Payette River Special Recreation Management Area

OBJECTIVE(S)
<p>Objective Statement: Within the Payette River SRMA, by the year 2035 and beyond, 80 percent recreation assessment participants will indicate identified experiences and benefits mostly are realized (4 on scale of 1-5).</p>
<p>Activities: Non-motorized boating and water play.</p> <p>Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing skills and abilities to gain greater self-confidence; and • Enjoying time with family and friends and telling others about trips. <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater self-reliance; • Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment with others; • Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions; and • Improves local economic stability.
RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTIC DESCRIPTIONS
<p>Physical Components: Rural - paved roads, boat launches, and facilities.</p> <p>Social Components: Primarily Front Country - 7-15 encounters (on river), 7-25 people/group, small areas of alteration prevalent – vegetation gone in used areas, people regularly heard.</p> <p>Operational Components: Front Country – 2- and 4-wheel drive vehicles, staff periodically present, rules posted.</p>
MANAGEMENT DIRECTION AND ALLOWABLE USES
<p>Recreation and Visitor Services Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage area in coordination with USFS through MOU and other mechanisms; • Charge fees at developed sites; • Limit to day use unless campground is developed; and • Permit special events and outfitters and guides on a case-by-case basis. <p>Other Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain scenic qualities while allowing for recreation developments (e.g., boat launches, restrooms); • Closed to timber harvest, but thinning/fuels treatments could be allowed; • NSO for leasable minerals; and • See WSR management direction for additional restrictions/guidance.

Table H-4. Brownlee/Oxbow Extensive Recreation Management Area

OBJECTIVE(S)
Objective Statement: By 2035, the Brownlee/Oxbow ERMA will offer a variety of water and upland recreation opportunities in a relatively unchanged scenic setting.
MANAGEMENT DIRECTION AND ALLOWABLE USES
<p>Recreation and Visitor Services Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue special recreation permits and vendors on a case-by-case basis; and • Consider additional visitor use facilities to address user demand and/or to protect natural resources. <p>Other Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Except for Weiser Dunes Play Area, motorized use is limited. Route designation will occur through travel management planning. • Retain scenic qualities while allowing for recreation developments (e.g., campgrounds, boat docks, and restrooms); • NSO for leasable minerals within 0.5 miles of developed sites; and • Avoidance for mineral material disposal, LUAs, and renewable energy development to maintain scenic qualities.

Table H-5. Bennett Hills Backcountry Conservation Area

SUPPORTING INFORMATION
This area contains high quality habitat for mule deer and upland bird species. This area is mostly unroaded tracts of land. This area provides walk-in hunting opportunities for mule deer and upland bird species.
OBJECTIVE(S)
Objective Statement: Within the Bennett Hills BCA, promote high quality wildlife-dependent recreation activities (e.g., trophy mule deer and upland bird hunting) to maintain and enhance wildlife habitats while also allowing for active management of authorized uses such as livestock grazing, forest management, minerals development and land use authorizations, etc.
Targeted Activities: Manage for primitive recreation in support of hunting, camping, and wildlife viewing.
Targeted Experiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and improving hunting and camping skills and abilities; • Enjoying strenuous exercise; and • Enjoy teaching friends and family about recreating in the outdoors.
Targeted Benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserving custom and culture of hunting and survival skills; • Greater self-reliance and sense of adventure; • Stronger ties with community, family, and friends; • Positive contributions to local/regional economies; and • Protection of intact natural landscapes.
RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTIC DESCRIPTIONS
Physical Components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remoteness: Back Country - within 0.5 miles of mechanized routes, • Naturalness: Back Country - minimally modified natural landscapes • Visitor Facilities: Primitive and Back Country - no structures.
Social Components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts: Back Country - 7-15 encounters (on main access roads) • Group size: Back Country - 4-6 people/group • Evidence of Use: Back Country - areas of alteration uncommon, people infrequently heard.
Operational Components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Access: Primitive - Motorized on main access routes, foot/horseback on remaining area, • Visitor Services: Primitive - maps online, staff rarely present, • Management Controls: Primitive - few restrictions.
MANAGEMENT DIRECTION AND ALLOWABLE USES
Recreation and Visitor Services Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No competitive use permits; • Permits for outfitters and guides considered on a case-by-case basis; and • Recreation facilities designed to maintain backcountry setting.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION AND ALLOWABLE USES
<p>Wildlife:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize habitat restoration, with focus on big game and Greater Sage-grouse habitat needs; • Reduce or minimize habitat fragmentation when considering activities <p>Other Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities within the BCA must be undertaken to ensure maintenance with Primitive or Back Country setting. • Pursue access and conservation easements; generally, lands will be retained in support of SO 3356 and 3373; • Allow motorized use (including over-snow vehicles) on existing routes only until a travel management plan is completed, with the exception that game retrieval could occur beyond existing or designated routes. Route designation, including over-snow vehicle use, will occur through travel management planning. When necessary, implement seasonal closures to address resource concerns (saturated soils, big game winter use); • Retain VRM Class II scenic qualities; • Allow herbicide application during vegetation management activities. • Open for leasable mineral development subject to TLS and NSO (Important Habitat Management Areas for Greater Sage-grouse); • Land uses including rights-of-ways and mineral material development is allowed subject to underlying restrictions for sage grouse and big game species. Portions of the BCA are designated as avoidance and/or exclusion for wind and solar development (Appendix A – Maps 10&11) to maintain Primitive or Back Country setting characteristics in those areas; • Active forest and rangeland management, which includes considering fuel breaks or other fuels reduction activities, such as prescribed burning consistent with natural fire return intervals, on a case-by-case basis while minimizing habitat fragmentation.
IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel Management Planning (as part of the Bennett Hills Travel Management Area); • Develop recreational access map and brochure if warranted; • Collaborate with Idaho Fish and Game to monitor and evaluate wildlife populations and habitat quality of the BCA. • Allow herbicide application during vegetation management activities. • Design and implement range improvement facilities for livestock (i.e., water developments) to also augment and enhance wildlife values.

Appendix I – Travel Management

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During subsequent travel and transportation management planning, BLM will use criteria from 43 CFR 8342.1 to guide the designation of individual routes. The PA has tentatively been divided into Travel Management Areas (TMAs) (Appendix A, Map 6). Identification of TMAs is done only to identify how implementation level travel planning efforts will be approached. TMAs can be changed at any time as needed to focus TTM efforts appropriately in the future.

Environmental Conditions

- General - Does access on the route promote resource damage/concerns? Is the route causing resource damage?
- Soil stability - Is the route within a highly erosive soils area? Does the route cross slopes of 50 percent or greater?
- Wildlife habitat (winter range, nesting/brooding and rearing habitat, calving/fawning areas) - Is the route a known issue within seasonally important wildlife habitat?
- Special Status Species habitat - Is the route a known issue within special status species habitat?
- Proximity to riparian areas and/or 303(d) (list of impaired) streams - Is the route causing damage to water quality? Does the route negatively impact wetlands/riparian/fens/mires?
- Visual resources - Does the route conflict with VRM Class objectives?
- Cultural/paleontological resources - Is the route creating an issue for any historic properties? Is the route creating an issue for any areas of Native American concern? Does the route cross significant paleontological areas?
- Special Management Areas - Is the route within a WSA? Is the route within an area determined to contain wilderness characteristics? Does the route conflict with Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) objectives? Does the route conflict with Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) objectives?
- Road and Trail Density - Do routes support goals related to conservation of scenic quality or sensitive habitat management; or accommodate certain uses. For sensitive habitat, limit road and trail density (for example, an average of 0.5 mile of road per square mile). In areas identified for specific recreation uses, a high density might be allowed (exceeding two miles of road/trail per square mile).

Route Conditions

- General - Is the route a BLM-maintained route? Is the road condition poor and/or unsustainable? Is the route unsafe (is it steep; have no turn-around)?
- Parallel routes - Does the route run parallel to another existing route?
- Spurs - Are there spurs?
- Dead end - Is it a dead-end route (0.5-mile or less)? Does the route end at private property?
- Access - Is there legal public access? Is there an existing ROW?

User Conflicts

- Is it motorized versus non-motorized?
- Is it motorized/mechanized versus non-mechanized?

Administrative Purposes

- Is the route necessary for rangeland activities?
- Is the route necessary for wildland fire suppression activities?
- Is the route necessary for safety?

- Is the route necessary for resource management and permitted activities?

Public Purposes

- Does the route access public or private land?
- Is the route used as a destination route for specific activities?
- Does the route have recreational value (no special destination)?
- Does the route involve types of desired use (motorized, mechanized, non-motorized/non-mechanized)?

Vehicle Type and Route Limitations

- Is it a 50-inch wheelbase or larger (utility task vehicles (UTVs), full-size vehicles)?
- Is it less than 50-inch wheelbase (all terrain vehicle (ATVs))?
- Is it a single-track (motorcycles/mountain bikes)?

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Appendix J – Land Tenure

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Lands that the BLM has determined are appropriate to identify as available for sale under section 203 of FLPMA are identified in Appendix A, Map 8. Prior to any sale, the BLM will review the legal land description, conduct a resurvey if necessary, and conduct a site-specific NEPA analysis of potential impacts on the environment resulting from sale. The manager shall prioritize the retention of BLM-administered lands, and may only consider the sale of lands under section 203 of FLPMA on a case-by-case basis when such sale would serve an important public objective of allowing the BLM to fulfill priorities.

Lands that the BLM has determined are appropriate to identify as available for exchange under section 206 of FLPMA or conveyance, lease, or land grant under other applicable authorities, and associated legal land descriptions are identified in Appendix A, Map 8. Lands shown as available for sale in Appendix A, Map 8 would also be available for exchange, conveyance, lease, or land grant under other applicable authorities. The manager shall prioritize the retention of BLM-administered lands, and may only exchange lands, on a case-by-case basis, where the exchange proposal has been determined to fulfill important management objectives and meets the public interest requirements of 43 CFR 2200.0-6(b), including, but not limited to: 1) consolidating Federal lands for more efficient and cost-effective management, 2) acquiring public access to Federal lands for recreational purposes, 3) acquiring important and/or critical wildlife or riparian habitat, and 4) acquisition of non-Federal in-holdings within specially-designated areas (i.e., wilderness area, ACEC, wild and scenic river corridor, etc.).

Lands adjacent to Federal lands and Idaho Fish and Game-managed lands will be retained unless they can be exchanged for lands containing equal or greater resource or recreational values, resulting in larger, contiguous blocks or reduced fragmentation. Additionally, the following lands will be retained unless they can be exchanged for lands containing equal or greater resource or recreational values, resulting in larger, contiguous blocks, or reducing fragmentation:

- Lands occupied by ESA-listed and/or BLM Types 2 and 3 special status species,
 - Riparian-wetland areas and designated floodplains,
 - Lands that provide access to larger blocks of public lands,
 - Lands with special designation or management emphasis,
 - Recreation opportunities and benefits, and
 - Oregon National Historic Trail.

Prior to any exchange under section 206 of FLPMA or conveyance, lease, or land grant under other applicable authorities, the BLM will review the legal land description, conduct a resurvey if necessary, and conduct a site-specific NEPA analysis of potential impacts on the environment resulting from the action.