CUR: CURRENT (1982) PROGRAM - NO ACTION

Theme

This alternative displays the current program of management activities on the Inyo National Forest and projects it over the 50-year planning horizon. The 1982 Forest budget is a limiting factor. The budget remains essentially constant over the planning horizon and continues to be distributed among the resources in roughly the same proportions as in 1982.

The issues and concerns addressed by this alternative are: (1) seeking to balance commodities and amenities to optimize net public benefit; (2) responding to the needs of affected social groups; (3) providing a range of recreational opportunities with an increasing emphasis on private development and winter sports; (4) managing fish and wildlife habitat for public enjoyment, primarily fishing and hunting; (5) making moderate wilderness recommendations, minimizing conflicts with other resources; (6) making land available for energy and mineral development while protecting other resource values

Developed summer recreation will be managed with the objective of maintaining use at current levels through the fifth decade. Alpine skiing will increase at a rate that responds to demand. The actual amount of development will be closely coordinated with community planning so that ski area capacity and the ability of the community to provide support services developed in tandem. The management of dispersed summer and winter recreation will allow for an increase in use, but will allow for the quality of the experience to deteriorate.

Timber will be managed with the objective of maintaining currently projected outputs over the planning horizon.

The grazing program will be managed with the objective of maintaining the current level of management intensity through the fifth decade.

The wilderness land base will be increased by the addition of Further Planning Areas with ecological systems not yet represented in wilderness on the Inyo.

Wildlife habitat will be managed with the objectives of: (1) minimizing Forest-wide reduction of deer habitat capacity; (2) achieving recovery for threatened and endangered species; (3) maintaining or enhancing habitat for sensitive and special interest species; and (4) maintaining population viability for all other native vertebrate species. Fish habitat will be managed with the objectives of responding to projected increases in dispersed recreation and achieving recovery for threatened trout.

Resource Program Direction

Cultural Resources: Inventory cultural resource properties (primarily in preparation for timber sales and other activities that could affect cultural values) at a rate of approximately 12,000 acres per year, covering 33 percent of the Forest by the end of the fifth decade. Meet mandatory historic preservation requirements for project implementation primarily through

mitigation by avoidance of impacts (protection). Undertake formal site evaluation, testing, and mitigation only when avoidance is not feasible. Develop and initiate type-of-site evaluation studies as the opportunity arises. Continue to provide a minimum of formal site protection, interpretation, and enhancement.

Facilities: Construct a total of 6 miles of road to facilitate timber management, and 40 new roads for developed recreation sites access over the next fifty years. Construct a total of 178 miles of trail for hikers, equestrians, nordic skiers, and OHVs. Reconstruct the road and trail system on a programmed basis. Maintain to levels provided for by 1982 budget levels. *Construct one additional administrative site for the new Mono Basin* National Forest Scenic Area.

Fish: Improve a total of 72 acres of stream habitat in concentrated recreation areas and 56 acres in native golden trout habitat on the Kern Plateau. Establish 5 acres of habitat for Lahontan cutthroat trout. Negotiate with FERC and the affected utility companies to rewater at least 27 acres of stream to reestablish resident trout fisheries. The watershed improvement work will also benefit fish habitat.

Lands: Coordinate landownership adjustments with community planning and Forest management objectives to provide for the community growth associated with increasing alpine ski area capacity.

Minerals: Encourage the development of geothermal resources according to current agreements in Lease Blocks I and II. Consider additional geothermal exploration and development in response to lease applications on any Forest lands outside of designated or recommended wilderness. Encourage mineral exploration and development by limiting the acreage with identified high *mineral potential recommended for wilderness designation.*

Pest Management: Respond to the need and opportunity for pest management at current, moderate levels based on the low level of developed recreation use, the lack of new site construction, and the moderate opportunity to manage vegetation associated with moderate timber outputs.

Protection: Continue to operate under the 1982 fire management program pending completion of the final fire management action plan for the Forest.

Range: Maintain the current level of intensity in range management. Allow for a reduction in grazing due to vegetation changes resulting from timber management on lands suitable for both timber and range management. Apply the guideline of 50 percent forage utilization by livestock. Do not increase livestock grazing on deer winter range. Give priority to mule deer in key fawning areas, developing specific direction in allotment management plans.

Recreation: Maintain existing developed campgrounds and existing concentrated recreation areas; provide for some additional construction of minor day use and interpretive facilities. Operate many facilities at low-standard levels of maintenance and service and/or shorten the operating seasons.

Evaluate potential alpine ski areas in the following sequence: (1) Sherwin Bowl, (2) Mammoth Knolls and Minaret Summit; (3) San Joaquin and White Wing. For the initial planning period, manage Sherwin, Summit, and Knolls so that alpine ski area potential is not lost. The actual amount and location of ski areas will be based on site-specific feasibility studies and environmental documents; for planning purposes, the development level projected in the 1985 Town of Mammoth General Plan represents full ski area development under this alternative.

Manage for slightly increased summer dispersed recreation resulting from an enlarged wilderness base and the projected upgrading of U.S. 395 and 203. Manage for the moderate increase in winter dispersed use that will result from near-doubling of the overnight wintertime accommodation base in local communities and the establishment of a moderate-sized nordic resort in the upper Dry Creek-Deadman Creek area. Construct few, if any, new dispersed facilities such as trails, parking areas, and restrooms. Continue to manage dispersed recreation at a low standard (limited cleanup, maintenance, and public contact outside of developed sites).

Accommodate and control OHV use under the existing Interagency Vehicle Use Plan, retaining existing summer open areas and slightly reducing winter open areas where they conflict with alpine or nordic ski areas or wilderness.

Research Natural Areas: Complete the establishment process for the Whippoorwill Flat and McAfee Meadow recommended RNAs.

Riparian Areas: Prohibit new activities in riparian areas that will have unacceptable long-term effects on water quality, fish (or other aquatic fauna), or water-dependent plant life. The fish habitat and watershed improvement work discussed under separate headings will also be expected to benefit riparian areas.

Special Interest Areas: Evaluate identified candidate Special Interest Areas and establish those selected.

Timber: Manage timber for high level production where cost-effective on all suitable timber lands with the following exceptions:

1. Do not manage for commercial timber outputs on existing or potential concentrated recreation areas or existing alpine ski areas.
2. Modify timber management as needed to meet the retention visual quality objective in the foreground zones of Sensitivity Level 1 roads.

Provide fuelwood in response to demand. If the supply of logging residue falls below the demand for fuelwood, consider supplying some fuelwood out of the programmed harvest.

Visual Resources: Assign prescribed Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) with the following exceptions: timber management must meet or exceed the VQO of partial retention on all lands, and openings for timber harvest should be limited to 20 acres or less.

Watershed: Implement the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) Plan at the current rate of approximately 40 acres per year, completing approximately 9 percent of the work identified in that plan by the end of the fifth decade.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: Wild and Scenic River recommendations are the same for all alternatives; those recommendations are described above under the heading of Management Prescriptions that are area-specific in all alternatives.

Wilderness: Recommend the following Further Planning Areas for wilderness designation: the upper elevations of the White Mountains and the southeast quarter of the Paiute area in the Inyo Mountains. Control is the only appropriate fire suppression strategy in wilderness.

Wildlife: Maintain overall mule deer habitat near current levels by coordination with other resources and by deer habitat improvement. Treat vegetation, emphasizing key winter range, at an average rate of 482 acres per year (241 acres of which will be treated by prescribed burning.) Do not allow cattle grazing to increase on key deer winter range. Emphasize the protection of key fawning habitat, developing specific direction in allotment management plans. Mitigate the effects of ski area development, geothermal development, and timber management on deer migration routes.

Maintain the integrity of the existing bald eagle winter roosting area.

Provide for two nesting pairs of reintroduced peregrine falcons.

Maintain all existing goshawk nesting territories in suitable timber, allocating 50 acres to each nesting pair.

Maintain 10 percent of all forested lands (but no suitable timber) in older seral stages.

Maintain or create snags in managed timber stands to meet at least 40 percent of the natural potential density of snag-dependent wildlife; allow for higher densities outside of managed timber.

Environment to be Created in the Year 2030

Summer visitors to the Forest in the year 2030 will find only a slight increase in recreationists, as no additional campgrounds will have been constructed. There will be a few more day-use sites and trails. Facilities will be in poor condition, and services will be provided at a low level.

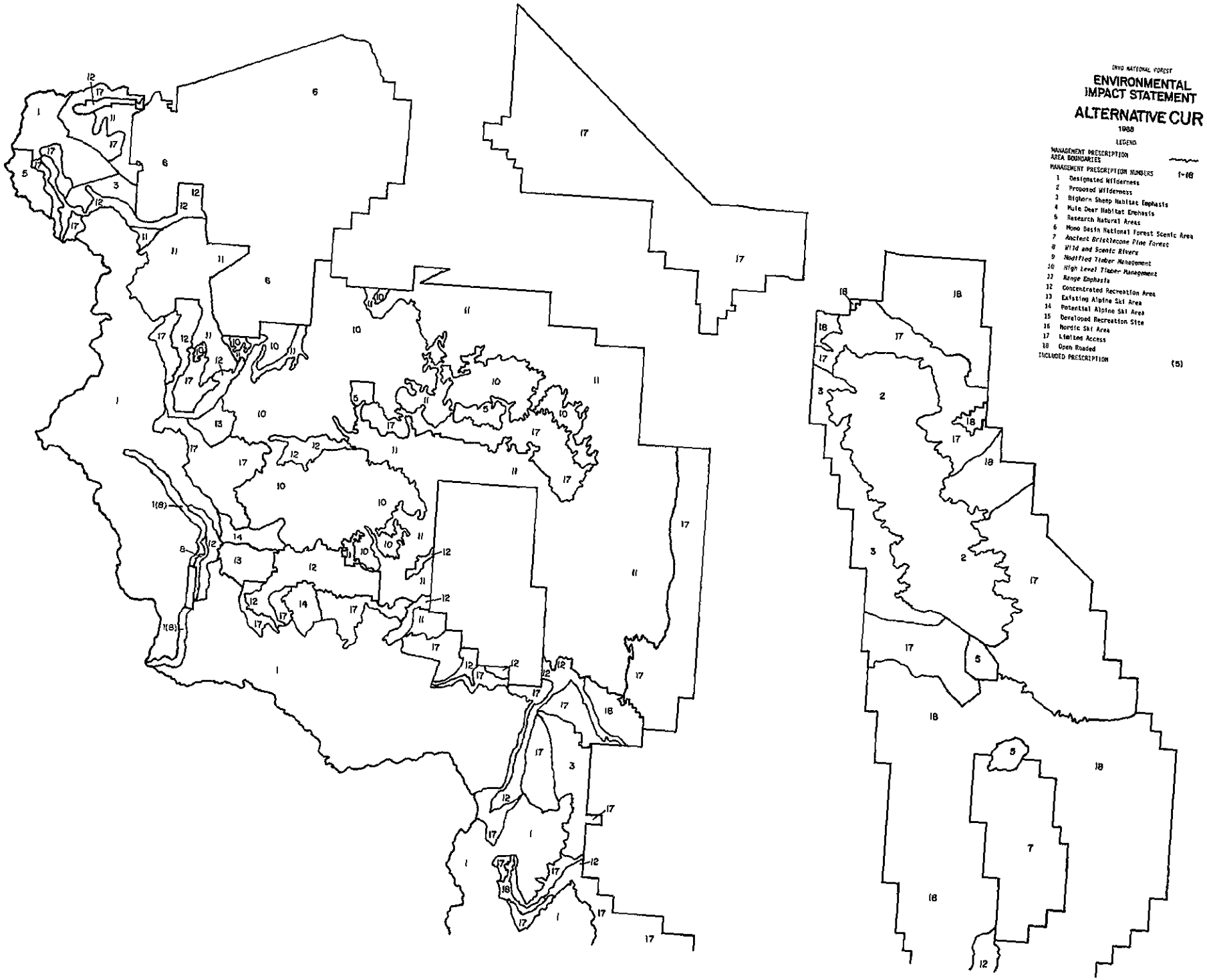
Anglers will find slightly increased fishing opportunities due to a moderate amount of stream habitat improvement and a small amount of watershed improvement work. Hunters will experience declining deer populations where timber harvest, geothermal development, and community growth had increased overall use and disturbance of deer habitat.

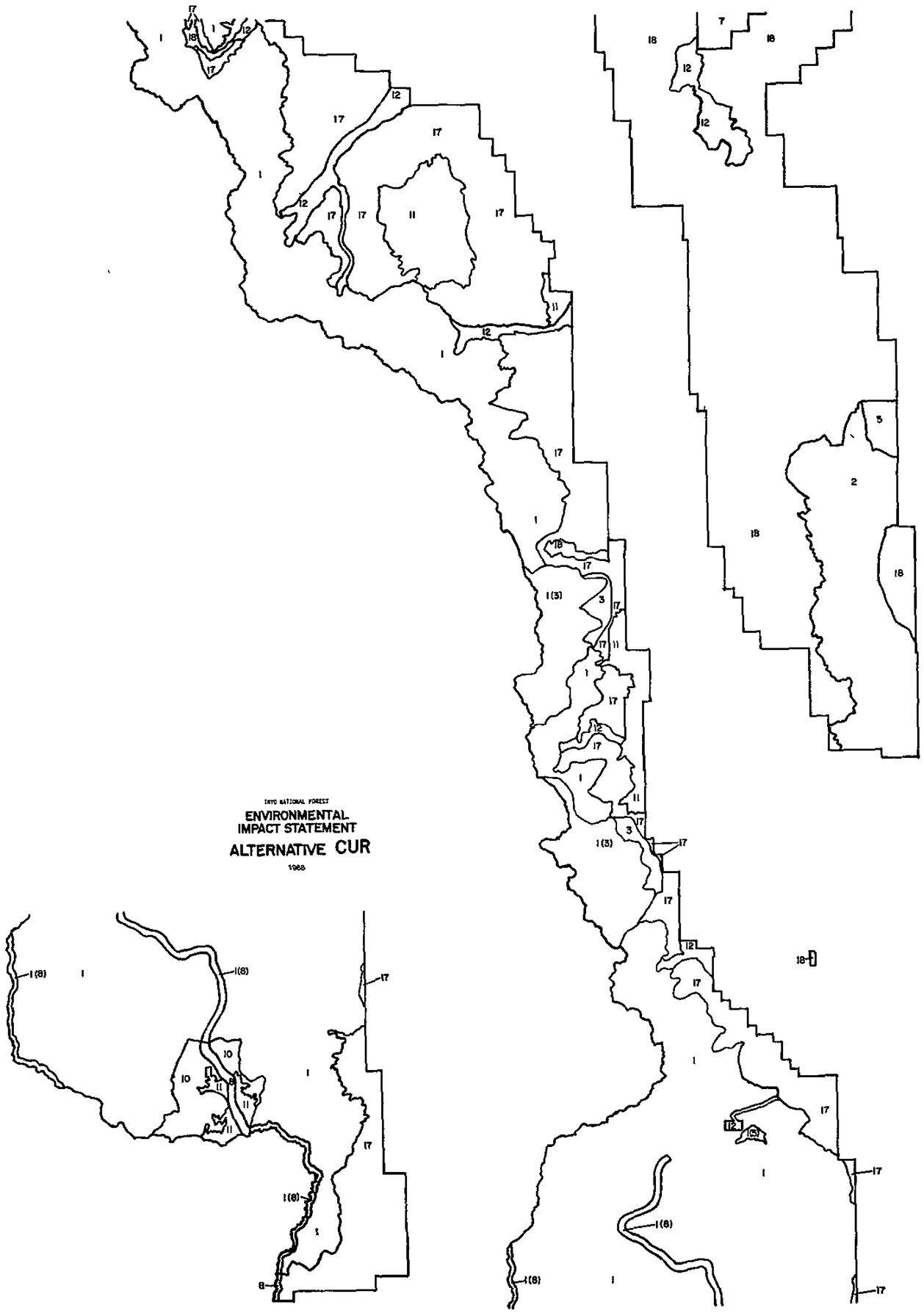
The type of use in the Monache area will have changed with improved access for timber harvest. More people will use the area as a wilderness entry point, and fewer will seek the remote camping and four-wheel drive recreation typical of 1982. There will also be some changes in the White and Inyo

Mountains, as wilderness in those ranges attract more hikers and stock parties.

Vegetation will differ little in appearance as seen from major roads. Views from the back roads and viewpoints north and east of Mammoth Lakes and in the Monache area will show a substantial increase in plantations of small trees and logging debris.

Winter visitors will encounter nearly twice as many alpine skiers and skiing opportunities. Mammoth and June Mountains will have developed fully, and additional skiing will be found in the Sherwin Bowl, Minaret Summit, and/or Mammoth Knolls areas. There will be a slight increase in nordic trails Forest-wide. The communities of Mammoth and June Lake will have grown and urbanized considerably in support of increased skiing.


INYO NATIONAL FOREST
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
ALTERNATIVE CUR
1988
LEGEND
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AREA BOUNDARIES
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION NUMBERS 1-18
1 Designated Wilderness
2 Proposed Wilderness
3 Bighorn Sheep Habitat Emphasis
4 Mule Deer Habitat Emphasis
5 Research Natural Areas
6 Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area
7 Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest
8 Wild and Scenic Rivers
9 Modified Timber Management
10 High Level Timber Management
11 Range Emphasis
12 Concentrated Recreation Area
13 Existing Alpine Ski Area
14 Potential Alpine Ski Area
15 Developed Recreation Site
16 Nordic Ski Area
17 Limited Access
18 Open Roaded
INCLUDED PRESCRIPTION (5)



INYO NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE CUR

1988

Table 6
Acreage Allocations by Management Prescription
Alternative CUR

Management Prescription	M Acres	Percent of Forest
1. Designated Wilderness	565.1	29.4
2. Proposed Wilderness	107.6	5.6
3. Mountain Sheep	35.0	1.8
4. Mule Deer	0	0
5. Research Natural Area*	14.9 (0.7)	0.8
6. Mono Basin NF Scenic Area*	45.0	2.3
7. Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest*	28.9	1.5
8. Wild and Scenic River*	4.3 (19.4)	0.2
9 . Uneven-aged Timber Management	0	0
10. High Level Timber Management	109.8	5.7
11. Range	178.3	9.2
12. Concentrated Recreation Area	44.6	2.3
13. Alpine Ski Area, Existing and Under Study	6.2	0.3
14. Potential Alpine Ski Area	6.6	0.3
15. Developed Recreation Site	1.4	0.1
16. Dispersed Recreation	0	0
17. Semi-Primitive Recreation	364.4	18.9
18. Multiple Resource Area	419.0	21.7

* Acres with dual designation (existing or proposed wilderness and RNA, Scenic Area, etc.) are displayed in the acreage total for Prescriptions 1 or 2 and indicated in parentheses under the other applicable prescription.

Table 7
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CUR

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
FACILITIES								
Administrative Sites								
-Forest Service owned (no.)	6	-	-	8	8	8	8	8
-leased (no.)	1	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Dams and Reservoirs								
-Forest Service (no.)	3	-	-	3	3	3	3	3
-State/local (no.)	4	-	-	4	4	4	4	4
-private (no.)	11	-	-	11	11	11	11	11
Roads (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	3.1	1.5	0	0	0
-timber	0	-	-	.6	0	0	0	0
-recreation	0	-	-	2.5	1.5	0	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	20	-	-	15	15.8	17	17	17
-timber	15	-	-	15	5.0	17	17	17
-recreation	5	-	-	0	10.8	0	0	0
Maintenance (tot.)	974	-	-	977	989	995	1003	1011
Trails (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	9.0	8.8	0	0	0
-existing wilderness	0	-	-	0.7	0.6	0	0	0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	0.8	0.7	0	0	0
-concentrated rec. areas	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-open NF	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-OHV	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-nordic	0	-	-	7.5	7.5	0	0	0
Reconstruction total	10.8	-	-	37.9	37.9	49.9	59.0	58.9
-existing wilderness	9.0	-	-	12.6	12.6	22.7	25.0	25.0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	1.3	1.3	0.8	4.1	4.0
-concentrated rec. areas	1.8	-	-	4.2	4.2	3.7	4.2	4.2
-open NF	0	-	-	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1
-OHV	0	-	-	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4
-nordic	0	-	-	3.2	3.2	6.2	9.2	9.2

Table 7 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CUR

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
Trails (cont'd)								
-Maintenance (tot.)	1236	-	-	1361	1469	1469	1469	1469
LANDS AND MINERALS								
Land acquired (acres)	60	0	0	54	130	200	150	60
Leasable minerals (total power plants)	0	-	-	1	3	5	6	6
Locatable minerals (operating plans)	67	320	408	60	63	67	72	72
PROTECTION								
Fuel Treatment (acres)								
-total	18	500	400	923	514	1103	602	168
-fire related	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-timber related	18	-	-	163	80	97	92	168
-range related	0	-	-	324	434	286	52	0
-wildlife related	0	-	-	436	0	720	458	0
Expected Wildfire (acres)								
-total	747	-	-	1011	1069	1069	1069	1069
-intensity level 1	13	-	-	10	11	11	11	11
-intensity level 2	34	-	-	128	135	135	135	135
-intensity level 3	53	-	-	57	60	60	60	60
-intensity level 4	647	-	-	209	222	222	222	222
-intensity level 5	0	-	-	607	641	641	641	641
RANGE (M AUMs)	41.4	42.2	44.5	38.1	39.3	41.6	39.3	39.1
RECREATION USE (M RVD)								
Developed Public	1201	3510	5100	1293	1293	1293	1289	1289
Developed Private	1635			1914	2421	2832	2832	2832
Dispersed	1004	2490	3120	1238	1560	1580	1580	1640
Wilderness	540			639	680	716	753	788
Visual Quality Index	142.07	-	-	142.13	142.18	142.22	142.26	142.30

Table 7 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CUR

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
TIMBER								
ASQ (MMBF)	10.5	16.8	19.8	11.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4
Fuelwood (M cords)	10.6	-	-	10.6	11.0	8.7	5.7	4.2
Long Term Sustained Yield (MMBF)	-	-	-	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7
Reforestation (acres)	300	614	718	817	402	483	459	842
Timber Stand Improvement (acres)	328	900	918	40	48	970	0	0
WATER								
Improvement (acres)	100	180	200	40	40	40	40	40
Quality (M acre-feet)	1047	476	481	1047	1049	1050	1051	1052
Increased Quantity (M acre-feet)	0	-	-	11.0	4.0	0	3.0	0
WILDLIFE AND FISH								
Mule Deer								
(M animals total)	20.2	+20 percent		20.2	20.0	19.8	19.7	19.6
(M animals on Inyo)	12.0			12.0	11.8	11.6	11.5	11.5
Bald Eagle** (winter roosting areas)	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Peregrine Falcon** (no. of pairs)	0	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
Goshawks (pairs in suitable timber)	15	-	-	15	15	15	15	15
Nelson Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	130	-	-	140	154	154	154	154
Sierra Nevada Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	300	-	-	350	400	450	500	550

Table 7 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CUR

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
WILDLIFE AND FISH (cont'd)								
Lahontan CT Trout* (ac. of habitat)	1	-	-	.3	.5	.5	.5	.5
Paiute CT Trout* (ac. of habitat)	3	-	-	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Resident Trout (M pounds)	1632	+20 percent		1635	1639	1643	1647	1651
Total Wildlife/Fish User Days (M WFUDs)	391.0	-	-	392.9	393.9	395.2	396.7	398.9
- mule deer	25.2	-	-	25.2	24.6	24.2	24.0	23.8
- resident trout	340.0	-	-	340.8	341.5	342.3	343.1	343.9
- other	25.8	-	-	26.9	27.8	28.7	29.6	31.2
Derived from direct habitat improvement								
- mule deer	0.1	-	-	<0.1	0	0.2	0.2	0
- resident trout	0	-	-	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
- other	0	-	-	0.5	0	0.2	0.2	0
Derived from induced habitat improvement								
- mule deer	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
- resident trout	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
- other	0.1	-	-	<0.1	0	0.2	0.1	0
Units of direct habitat improvement								
- mule deer (M ac.)	0.5	-	-	0	0	1.4	0.9	0
- resident trout (ac)	0	0	0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
- other (M acres)	0	-	-	.4	0	0	0	0
HUMAN RESOURCES								
Programs (enrollees)	39	14	14	39	39	39	39	39
TOTAL BUDGET (MM$)	9.9	11.1	12.2	10.0	9.9	10.0	10.0	10.0
TOTAL COST (MM$)	10.3	-	-	11.0	10.9	11.0	11.0	11.0

*Threatened, **Endangered.

RPA: MEET TARGETS AND GOALS OF THE 1980 RESOURCES PLANNING ACT PROGRAM

Theme

This alternative is designed to meet the targets and goals of the 1980 RPA Program, representing moderate to high outputs of commodities and selected amenities. Some of the assigned RPA targets and goals for the Forest are not mutually compatible. Where there was a conflict, market outputs (timber, range, and developed recreation) were given priority over non-market outputs and amenities. In cases for which RPA goals could not be met in this alternative, they were met in one or more of the other alternatives studied in detail. There is no budget limitation in the FORPLAN model.

The issues and concerns addressed by this alternative are: (1) establishing a regulated forest on a large part of the tentatively suitable timber base; (2) achieving high levels of developed recreation use, (3) making no additional wilderness recommendations; (4) minimizing restrictions on mineral activities.

Timber will be managed with the objectives of achieving a programmed annual harvest of 19.2 MMBF.

Domestic livestock grazing will be managed with the objective of producing at least 55,600 average annual AUMs by the fifth decade, representing the Congressional target of a 46 percent increase over the specified base level.

Developed recreation will be managed with the objective of increasing in response to demand; the actual amount of development will be limited by potential supply. Alpine skiing will increase in response to demand to the extent compatible with timber objectives. The management of dispersed summer and winter recreation will provide for an increase in use roughly proportional to developed site use.

Wildlife habitat will be managed with the objectives of: (1) minimizing Forest-wide reductions in deer habitat capacity, given the range and alpine skiing priority; (2) achieving recovery for threatened and endangered species; (3) maintaining population viability for all other native vertebrate species. Fish habitat will be managed with the objectives of:(1) achieving recovery for threatened trout species; (2) responding to projected increases in dispersed recreation; (3) increasing stream trout habitat 20 percent in response to the RPA goal.

Resource Program Direction

Cultural Resources: Meet the RPA goal of completing a Forest-wide cultural resource inventory by 1995, at an average rate of 180,000 acres per year. Develop and implement a formal type-of-site evaluation program for various types of cultural properties. Use that program to supplement a primary strategy of impact avoidance (protection) in meeting historic preservation requirements for activities that could affect cultural properties. Develop and implement enhancement and interpretation activities as the opportunity arises. Initiate formal monitoring and protection programs.

Facilities: Construct a total of 21 miles of road to facilitate timber management and 82 miles for developed recreation site access over the next 50 years. Construct a total of 538 miles of trail for hikers, equestrians, nordic skiers, and OHVs. Reconstruct the road and trail system on a programmed basis; maintain to assigned maintenance levels. Construct one additional administrative site for the new Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area.

Fish: Improve a total of 180 acres of stream habitat in concentrated recreation areas and 56 acres in native golden trout habitat on the Kern Plateau. Establish 18 acres of habitat for threatened Paiute cutthroat trout and 5 acres for Lahontan cutthroat trout. Negotiate with FERC and the affected utility companies to rewater at least 27 acres of stream for the reestablishment of resident trout fisheries. The watershed improvement work will also benefit fish habitat.

Lands: Acquire lands (if they become available) in Lee Vining Canyon, Lundy Canyon, and the upper Owens River for summer recreation development. Coordinate landownership adjustments with community planning and Forest management objectives to provide for the community growth associated with increasing alpine ski area capacity. Conduct landline surveys at an average rate of 33 miles per year in order to meet the RPA goal of completing all such surveys by the year 2030.

Minerals: Encourage the development of geothermal resources according to current agreements in Lease Blocks I and II. Consider additional geothermal exploration and development in response to lease applications on any additional Forest lands outside of designated wilderness. In order to encourage mineral activities, recommend no additional lands for wilderness designation.

Pest Management: Respond to the very high overall need and opportunity for pest management based on the high levels of developed recreation use and new site construction and the major opportunity to manage vegetation associated with high level timber outputs.

Protection: Apply the following fire management program: (1) prevention and detection represent 17 percent of the program; (2) suppression and aviation represent 83 percent of the program; (3) there is no fuels treatment for fire management purposes; (4) total staffing at the 1982 level; and (5) all appropriate wildfire suppression strategies (confinement, containment, and control) are applied.

Range: Intensify range management with an annual average of 1,500 acres of vegetation treatment over the five decades. Accomplish 570 acres of this total by prescribed burning. Apply the guideline of 60 percent utilization of forage by livestock. Allow for a reduction in grazing due to vegetation changes resulting from timber management on lands suitable for both timber and range management. Allow livestock grazing to increase on deer winter range. Place only minimal restrictions on grazing in mule deer fawning areas.

Recreation: Develop all potential campgrounds and day-use sites that will not conflict with timber management activities. Develop those sites with the

greatest projected use first (water-oriented sites in concentrated recreation areas have the greatest projected use; sites away from water and concentrated use areas have the lowest projected use). Develop interpretive sites as the opportunity arises. Operate facilities and administer permits at standard level of service.

Retain most existing concentrated recreation areas. Eliminate the Deadman, Inyo Craters, and Deadman expansion concentrated recreation areas (keeping the campgrounds) to allow for maximum timber production. Develop new concentrated recreation areas in the Buttermilk and Walker Lake-Sawmill Canyon areas. Develop an additional concentrated recreation area in the upper Owens River area if private land along the river becomes available.

Consider proposals to increase alpine ski area capacity 8,000 to 15,000 SAOT over the 31,000 currently approved. Added capacity will be envisioned for the Sherwin Bowl and Minaret Summit potential ski areas to minimize conflicts with timber management.

Manage for increasing dispersed use that will result from full development of campgrounds and a more-than double wintertime overnight base in local communities. Manage for the increased use associated with upgrading of U.S. 395 and State Highway 203, improved access into currently unroaded areas, and the development of a moderate-sized nordic ski area in the upper Dry Creek-Deadman Creek area. Provide a full complement of trails, restrooms, parking areas, and interpretive signs to enhance year-round recreational opportunities and protect resources. Manage dispersed use at standard levels of service.

Encourage summer OHV use, including a 65 percent increase in open OHV area acreage. Restrict winter OHV use only to the degree needed to minimize conflicts with wilderness or alpine and nordic ski areas.

Manage the following lands in continuing unroaded condition with an emphasis on primitive and semi-primitive dispersed recreation: San Joaquin Ridge from Deadman Summit to Glass Creek, lands outside wilderness and concentrated recreation areas in the Rock Creek drainage and the Mammoth Lakes Basin, Glass Mountain Ridge, and the higher elevations of the White Mountains north of White Mountain Peak.

Research Natural Areas: Complete the establishment process for the Whippoorwill Flat and McAfee Meadow RNAs.

Riparian Areas: Prohibit new activities in riparian areas that will have unacceptable long-term effects on water quality, fish (or other aquatic animals), or water-dependent plant life. The fish habitat and watershed improvement work discussed under separate headings will also be expected to benefit riparian areas.

Special Interest Areas: Evaluate identified candidate Special Interest Areas and establish those selected by 1990.

Timber: Manage timber for high level production where cost-effective on all suitable timber lands with the following exceptions.

1. Do not manage for commercial timber outputs on concentrated recreation areas or alpine ski areas.

2. Modify timber management as needed to meet the Retention Visual Quality Objective in the foreground zones of scenic highways.

Allow for departure from the base sale schedule, drop the harvest dispersion requirements, and harvest steep slopes (even if not cost-effective) in order to achieve objectives.

Provide fuelwood in response to demand. If the supply of logging residue falls below the demand for fuelwood, consider supplying some fuelwood out of the programmed harvest.

Visual Resources: Assign prescribed Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) with the following exceptions: timber management must meet or exceed the VQOs of Retention or Partial Retention, as inventoried, where seen from state-designated scenic highways; Partial Retention in the foreground zones of Sensitivity Level 1 roads; and Modification in the foreground zones of Sensitivity Level 2 roads.

Watershed: Implement the Forest watershed improvement needs (WIN) plan at an average rate of 200 acres per year in order to meet the RPA target; at this rate, 46 percent of the work identified in that plan will be completed by the end of the fifth decade.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: Wild and Scenic River recommendations are the same for all alternatives; those recommendations are described above under the heading of Management Prescriptions that are area-specific in all alternatives.

Wilderness: Recommend no Further Planning Areas for wilderness designation. Containment will be the primary wildfire suppression strategy for natural fires in wilderness.

Wildlife: Maintain overall mule deer habitat capacity to the extent possible given livestock priority on winter range and timber harvest, geothermal development, community growth, and ski area development on migration routes. Enhance deer habitat by vegetation treatment, emphasizing key winter range, at an average rate of 496 acres per year (248 acres of which will be accomplished by prescribed burning).

Maintain the integrity of the existing bald eagle winter roosting area.

Provide for two nesting pairs of reintroduced peregrine falcons.

Maintain nine goshawk nesting territories in suitable timber; allocate 50 acres to each nesting pair.

Provide for no additional herds of reintroduced Sierra Nevada or Nelson mountain sheep.

Maintain 10 percent of all forested land (but no suitable timber) in older seral stages.

Maintain or create snags in managed timber stands to meet at least 40 percent of the natural potential density of snag-dependent wildlife; allow for higher densities outside of managed timber.

Environment to be Created in the Year 2030

Summer visitors to the Forest in the year 2030 will find noticeably more recreationists, as use will have increased nearly 60 percent since 1982. There will be many more campgrounds, day use sites, and trails of all kinds. Facilities will be better maintained and services will have improved.

Anglers will find somewhat increased fishing opportunities, due to the large amount of stream habitat enhancement and moderate amount of watershed improvement work. Hunters will experience dramatically reduced deer populations because cattle grazing had increased on deer winter range and because timber harvest, geothermal development, community growth, and ski area development had obstructed migration routes and improved access, increasing overall use and disturbance of deer habitat.

The type of use in the Monache area will have changed with improved access for timber harvest. More people will use the area as a wilderness entry point, and fewer will find the remote camping and four-wheel drive recreation typical of 1982.

Vegetation will differ little in appearance as seen from U.S. 395, Highway 203, and other Scenic Highways. Views from other roads and viewpoints north and east of Mammoth Lakes and in the Monache area will show a dramatic increase in plantations of small trees and logging debris. Timber harvest on steep slopes will be more visible than the harvest on gentler terrain found under other alternatives.

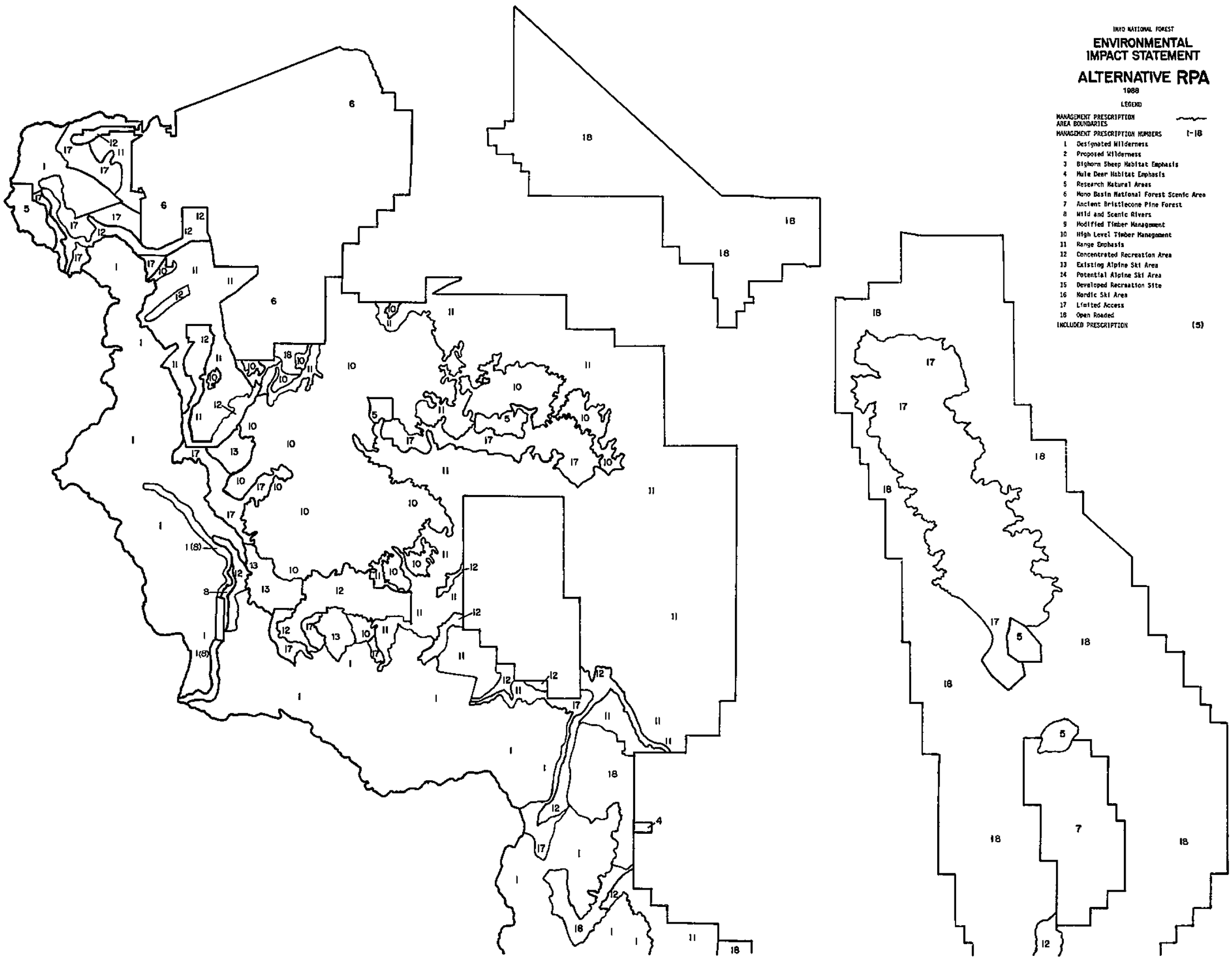
Winter visitors will encounter more than twice as many alpine skiers and skiing opportunities. Mammoth and June Mountains will have developed fully, and additional skiing will be found in the Sherwin Bowl, Minaret Summit, and White Wing areas. Nordic trails and support facilities will have developed Forest-wide. The communities of Mammoth and June Lake will have grown and urbanized considerably in support of increased skiing.

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE RPA

1988



INYO NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE RPA

1988

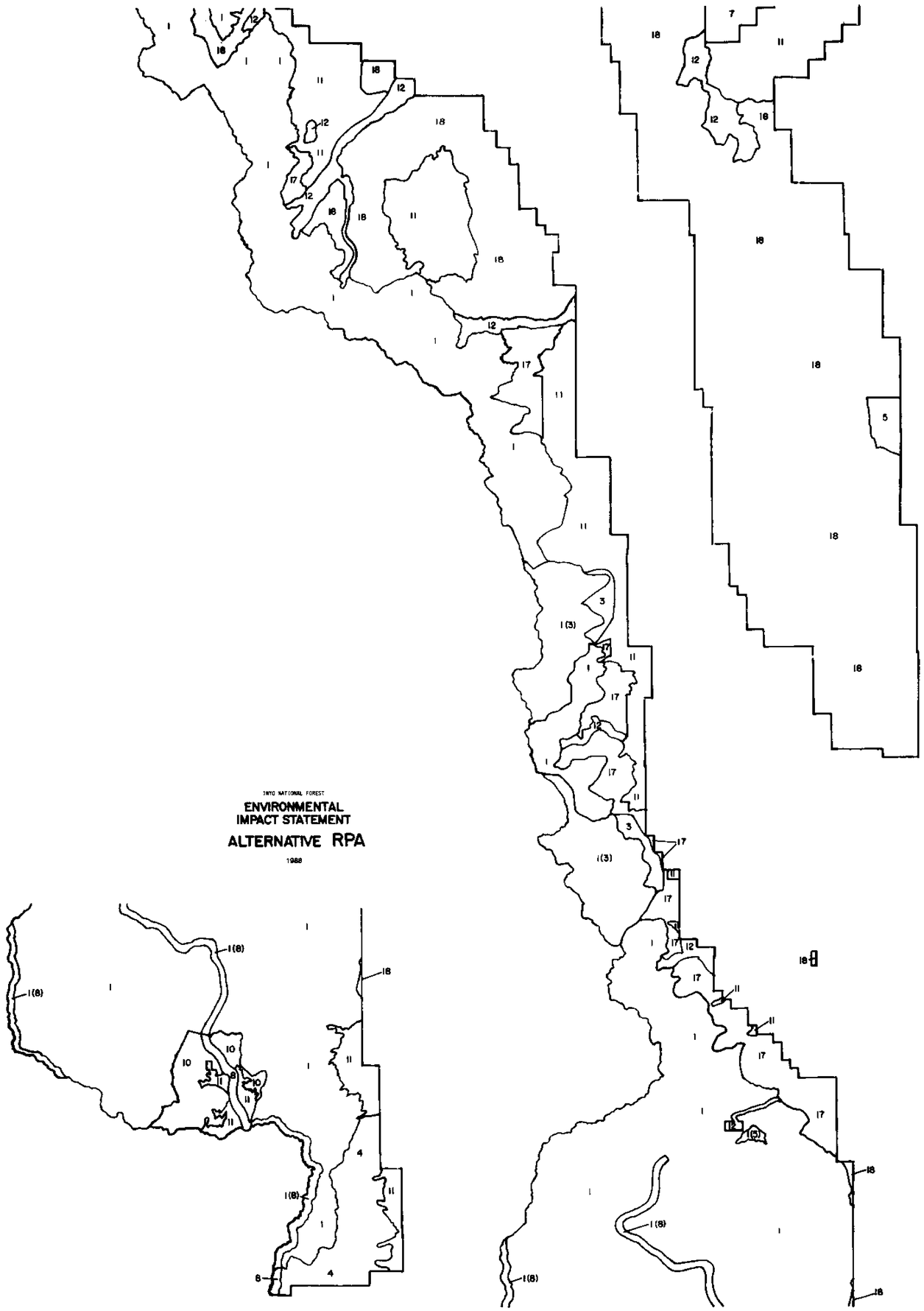


Table 8
Acreage Allocations by Management Prescription
Alternative RPA

Management Prescription	M Acres	Percent of Forest
1. Designated Wilderness	565.1	29.4
2. Proposed Wilderness	0	0
3. Mountain Sheep	4.8	0.2
4. Mule Deer	7.4	0.4
5. Research Natural Area*	14.9 (0.7)	0.8
6. Mono Basin NF Scenic Area*	45.0	2.3
7. Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest*	28.9	1.5
8. Wild and Scenic River*	4.3 (19.4)	0.2
9. Uneven-aged Timber Management	0	0
10. High Level Timber Management	119.8	6.2
11. Range	228.1	11.8
12. Concentrated Recreation Area	44.1	2.3
13. Alpine Ski Area, Existing and Under Study	10.2	0.5
14. Potential Alpine Ski Area	0	0
15. Developed Recreation Site	2.1	0.1
16. Dispersed Recreation	0	0
17. Semi-Primitive Recreation	204.4	10.6
18. Multiple Resource Area	652.0	33.8

* Acres with dual designation (existing or proposed wilderness and RNA, Scenic Area, etc.) are displayed in the acreage total for Prescriptions 1 or 2 and indicated in parentheses under the other applicable prescription.

Table 9
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative RPA

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
FACILITIES								
Administrative Sites								
-Forest Service owned (no.)	6	-	-	8	8	8	8	8
-leased (no.)	1	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Dams and Reservoirs								
-Forest Service (no.)	3	-	-	3	3	3	3	3
-State/local (no.)	4	-	-	4	4	4	4	4
-private (no.)	11	-	-	11	11	11	11	11
Roads (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	0.6	4.1	2.9	2.7	0
-timber	0	-	-	0.6	1.5	0	0	0
-recreation	0	-	-	0	2.6	2.9	2.7	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	20	0	0	20	24	28	28	28
-timber	15	-	-	18	22	26	26	26
-recreation	5	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
Maintenance (tot.)	974	-	-	977	999	1017	1036	1041
Trails (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	27.0	26.8	0	0	0
-existing wilderness	0	-	-	0.7	0.6	0	0	0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-concentrated rec. areas	0	-	-	9.0	9.0	0	0	0
-open NF	0	-	-	1.0	1.0	0	0	0
-OHV	0	-	-	2.5	2.5	0	0	0
-nordic	0	-	-	13.8	13.7	0	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	10.8	-	-	38.4	38.4	58.5	71.6	71.6
-existing wilderness	9.0	-	-	12.6	12.6	22.7	25.0	25.0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-concentrated rec. areas	1.8	-	-	4.2	4.2	7.3	11.3	11.3
-open NF	0	-	-	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.9	2.9
-OHV	0	-	-	16.2	16.2	17.2	18.2	18.2
-nordic	0	-	-	3.2	3.2	8.8	14.2	14.2

Table 9 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative RPA

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
Trails (cont'd)								
Maintenance (tot.)	1236	-	-	1506	1774	1774	1774	1774
LANDS AND MINERALS								
Land acquired (acres)	60	0	0	54	130	200	150	60
Leasable minerals (total power plants)	0	-	-	1	3	5	6	6
Locatable minerals (operating plans)	67	320	408	67	70	75	80	80
PROTECTION								
Fuel Treatment (acres)								
-total	18	500	400	1312	751	541	1213	1722
-fire related	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-timber related	18	-	-	143	208	185	295	282
-range related	0	-	-	356	356	356	356	1440
-wildlife related	0	-	-	813	187	0	562	0
Expected Wildfire (acres)								
-total	747	-	-	918	981	1062	1134	1224
-intensity level 1	13	-	-	9	10	11	11	12
-intensity level 2	34	-	-	55	59	64	68	73
-intensity level 3	53	-	-	64	69	74	79	86
-intensity level 4	647	-	-	239	255	276	295	318
-intensity level 5	0	-	-	551	589	637	680	734
RANGE (M AUMs)	41.4	42.2	44.5	52.7	58.7	62.3	61.1	55.6
RECREATION USE (M RVD)								
Developed Public	1201	3510	5100	1674	2057	2249	2249	2250
Developed Private	1635			1914	2421	3131	3479	3479
Dispersed	1004	2490	3120	1191	1887	2103	2286	2446
Wilderness	540			637	671	705	739	771
Visual Quality Index	142.07	-	-	142.15	142.22	142.28	142.33	142.38

Table 9 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative RPA

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
TIMBER								
(ASQ) (MMBF)	10.5	16.8	19.8	16.9	16.9	17.9	19.2	19.8
Long Term Sustained Yield (MMBF)	-	-	-	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.9
Reforestation (acres)	300	614	718	714	1040	926	1474	1410
Timber Stand Improvement (acres)	328	900	918	113	432	390	0	0
Fuelwood (M cords)	10.0	-	-	16.1	14.5	11.7	10.3	7.2
WATER								
Improvement (acres)	100	180	200	186	200	200	200	200
Quality (M acre-ft.)	1047	476	481	1052	1056	1060	1064	1068
Increased Quantity (M acre-feet)	0	-	-	15.0	0	0	0	0
WILDLIFE AND FISH								
Mule Deer								
(M animals total)	20.2	+20 percent		18.0	16.0	14.0	12.0	9.6
(M animals on Inyo)	12.0			11.2	9.9	8.7	7.4	5.9
Bald Eagle** (winter roosting areas)	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Peregrine Falcon** (no. of pairs)	0	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
Goshawks (pairs in suitable timber)	15	-	-	14	13	12	11	9
Nelson Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	130	-	-	130	130	130	130	130
Sierra Nevada Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	300	-	-	330	360	390	420	450

Table 9 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative RPA

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
WILDLIFE AND FISH (cont'd)								
Lahontan CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	1	-	-	.3	.5	.5	.5	.5
Paiute CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	3	-	-	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Resident Trout (M pounds)	1632	+20 percent		1640	1649	1657	1665	1673
Total Wildlife/Fish User Days (M WFUDs)								
	391.0	-	-	392.1	396.2	401.9	408.3	415.0
-mule deer	25.2	-	-	23.5	20.8	18.3	15.5	12.4
-resident trout	340.0	-	-	341.7	343.4	345.1	346.8	348.5
-other	25.8	-	-	26.9	32.0	38.5	46.0	54.1
Derived from direct habitat improvement								
-mule deer	0.1	-	-	0.1	<0.1	0	0.1	0
-resident trout	0	-	-	1.3	2.6	3.9	5.2	6.6
-other	0	-	-	0.4	<0.1	0	0	0
Derived from induced habitat improvement								
-mule deer	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-resident trout	0.1	-	-	0.4	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.9
-other	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.1
Units of direct habitat improvement								
-mule deer (M acres)	0.5	-	-	1.0	0.3	0	1.1	0
-resident trout (ac)	0	0	0	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2
-other (M acres)	0	-	-	3.0	0.2	0	0	0
HUMAN RESOURCES								
Programs (enrollees)	39	14	14	39	39	39	39	39
TOTAL BUDGET (MM$)	**9.9**	**11.1**	**12.2**	**12.0**	**13.7**	**15.8**	**17.2**	**20.6**
TOTAL COST (MM$)	**10.3**	**-**	**-**	**13.4**	**14.7**	**15.8**	**18.2**	**21.6**

* Threatened, ** Endangered.

CEE: MAXIMIZE COST-EFFICIENCY

Theme

This alternative seeks the most cost-effective mix of land allocations and management practices available on the Inyo National Forest, given the application of Minimum Management Requirements (MMRs), Timber Policy Requirements (TPRs), Minimum Implementation Requirements (MIRs), and Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines (FS&G).

The issues and concerns addressed by this alternative are: (1) maximizing cost-efficiency in resource management; (2) responding to the needs of regional recreationists, seasonal employees, and special use permittees; (3) providing the opportunity to maximize alpine skiing; (4) increasing the developed and dispersed recreation programs; (5) increasing opportunities for fishing and hunting; (6) recommending substantial acreage for wilderness.

If the Forest is managed with the single objective of maximizing cost-efficiency, the following conditions will be found:

Developed recreation (including alpine skiing) and dispersed recreation will be provided in response to projected demand to the extent possible, limited by supply; all potential sites will be developed and operated at standard levels of service.

Those Further Planning Areas with moderate to high potential for wilderness recreation use will be recommended for wilderness.

Timber outputs will be managed at cost-effective levels outside of developed recreation sites and ski areas, represeting an allowable sale quantity of 10.1 MMBF by the fifth decade.

The grazing program will be managed at cost-effective levels, representing 46.5 MAUMs, or a 12 percent increase over base year by the fifth decade.

Wildlife and fish habitat improvement for harvest species will be maximized in response to demand for hunting and fishing (the supply could not, however, meet that demand). Habitat for threatened and endangered species will be managed for recovery. Habitat for all other species will be managed for population viability.

Resource Program Direction

Cultural Resources: Inventory cultural resource properties (primarily in preparation for timber sales and other activities that could affect cultural properties) at a rate of approximately 12,000 acres per year, completing 33 percent of the Forest by the end of the fifth decade. Conduct other surveys as the opportunity arises. Meet cultural resource requirements by applying a balanced program of impact avoidance (protection), site-specifiic evaluations, and type-of-site evaluations. Develop and implement formal site protection, monitoring, enhancement, and interpretive activities in conjunction with the developed recreation program.

Facilities: Construct a total of 21 miles of road to facilitate timber management and 44 miles for developed recreation site access over the next 50 years. Construct a total of 725 miles of trail for hikers, equestrians, nordic skiers, and OHVs. Reconstruct the road and trail system on a programmed basis; maintain to assigned maintenance levels. Construct one additional administrative site for the new Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area.

Fish: Improve a total of 211 acres of stream habitat in concentrated recreation areas and 56 acres in native golden trout habitat on the Kern Plateau. Establish 18 acres of habitat for threatened Paiute cutthroat trout and 5 acres for Lahontan cutthroat trout. Negotiate with FERC and the affected utility companies to rewater at least 27 acres of stream for the reestablishment of resident trout fisheries. Watershed improvement work will also benefit fish habitat.

Lands: Acquire lands (if they become available) in Lee Vining Canyon, Lundy Canyon, and the upper Owens River for summer recreation development. Coordinate landownership adjustments with community planning and Forest management objectives to provide for the community growth associated with increasing alpine ski area capacity.

Minerals: Encourage the development of geothermal resources according to current agreements in Lease Blocks I and II. Consider additional geothermal exploration and development in response to lease applications on any additional Forest lands outside of designated or recommended wilderness. Allow for mineral exploration and development to be restricted by the large acreage in recommended wilderness.

Pest Management: Respond to the high overall need and opportunity for pest management based on the high levels of developed recreation use and new site construction and the moderate opportunity to manage vegetation associated with moderate timber outputs.

Protection: Apply the following fire management program: (1) prevention and detection represent 17 percent of the program; (2) suppression and aviation represent 83 percent of the program; (3) there is no fuels treatment for fire management purposes; (4) total staffing is reduced from the 1982 level; and (5) all appropriate wildfire suppression strategies (confinement, containment, and control) are applied.

Range: Intensify range management with an annual average of 1,250 acres of vegetation treatment over the five decades. Accomplish 486 acres of this total by prescribed burning. Allow for a reduction in grazing due to vegetation changes resulting from timber management on lands suitable for both timber and range management. Apply the guideline of 50 percent forage utilization by livestock. Do not increase livestock grazing on deer winter range. Give priority to mule deer in key fawning areas, developing specific direction in allotment management plans.

Recreation: Develop potential campgrounds and day-use sites as needed to meet the demand for developed recreation. Develop those sites with the greatest projected use first (water-oriented sites in concentrated recreation areas have the greatest projected use; sites away from water and concentrated

use areas have the lowest projected use). Develop interpretive sites as the opportunity arises. Operate facilities and administer permits at standard level of service.

Develop new concentrated recreation areas in the Walker Lake-Sawmill Canyon and Deadman expansion areas. Develop an additional concentrated recreation area in the upper Owens River area if private land along the river becomes available.

Consider proposals to increase alpine ski area capacity 15,000 to 30,000 SAOT over the 31,000 currently approved. Added capacity will probably involve all potential ski areas.

Manage for increasing dispersed use that will result from full development of summer overnight developed sites and more than three times the current wintertime overnight base in local communities. Manage for the increased use associated with upgrading of U.S. 395 and State Highway 203, improved access into currently unroaded areas, and the development of a moderate-sized nordic ski area in the upper Dry Creek-Deadman Creek area. Provide a full complement of trails, restrooms, parking areas, and interpretive signs to enhance year-round recreational opportunities and protect resources. Manage dispersed use at standard levels of service.

Encourage summer OHV use, including an increase of 47 percent in open OHV area acreage. Restrict winter OHV use only to the degree needed to minimize conflicts with wilderness or alpine and nordic ski areas.

Manage the following lands in continuing unroaded condition with an emphasis on primitive and semi-primitive dispersed recreation: lands outside wilderness and concentrated recreation areas in the Rock Creek drainage and the Mammoth Lakes Basin; Glass Mountain Ridge.

Research Natural Areas: Complete the establishment process for the Whippoorwill Flat and McAfee Meadow RNAs.

Riparian Areas: Prohibit new activities in riparian areas that will have unacceptable long-term effects on water quality, fish (or other aquatic animals), or water-dependent plant life. The fish habitat and watershed improvement work discussed under separate headings will also be expected to benefit riparian areas.

Special Interest Areas: Evaluate identified candidate Special Interest Areas and establish those selected.

Timber: Manage timber for high level production on all suitable lands where timber management is cost-effective with the following exceptions:

1. Do not harvest timber in developed recreation sites or alpine ski areas. (Allow for timber harvest in concentrated recreation areas.)

2. Modify timber management as needed to meet the Retention Visual Quality Objective in the foreground zones of scenic highways.

Provide fuelwood in response to demand. If the supply of logging residue falls below the demand for fuelwood, consider supplying some fuelwood out of the programmed harvest.

Visual Resources: Assign prescribed Visual Quality Objectives with the following exceptions:

1. Timber harvest must meet the VQO of Retention or Partial Retention as inventoried) in the foreground zones of state-designated scenic highways.

2. Ski lifts and runs must meet or exceed the VQO of Modification; base facilities must meet or exceed Maximum Modification.

3. Summer developed recreation sites must be located and designed (or rehabilitated) to meet or exceed the VQO of Modification as seen from Sensitivity Level 1 roads.

Watershed: Implement the watershed improvement needs (WIN) plan at an average rate of 470 acres per year, resulting in the completion of all the work identified in that plan by the end of the fifth decade.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: Wild and Scenic River recommendations are the same for all alternatives; those recommendations that are described above under the heading of Management Prescriptions are area-specific in all Alternatives.

Wilderness: Recommend the following Further Planning Areas for wilderness designation: Coyote Southeast, Laurel-McGee, Tioga Lake, Log Cabin-Saddlebag, and White Mountains. Containment will be the primary wildfire suppression strategy for natural fires in wilderness.

Wildlife: Maintain overall mule deer habitat capacity to the extent possible given timber harvest, geothermal development, and ski area development on migration routes. Enhance deer habitat by vegetation treatment, emphasizing key winter range at an average rate of 744 acres per year (372 acres of which will be accomplished by prescribed burning).

Maintain the integrity of the existing bald eagle winter roosting area.

Provide for two nesting pairs of reintroduced peregrine falcons.

Maintain nine goshawk nesting territories of 50 acres each in suitable timber.

Provide for no additional Sierra Nevada or Nelson mountain sheep reintroductions.

Maintain 10 percent of all forested lands (but no suitable timber) in older seral stages.

Maintain or create snags in managed timber stands to meet at least 40 percent of the natural potential density of snag-dependent wildlife; allow for higher densities outside of managed timber.

Environment to be Created in the Year 2030

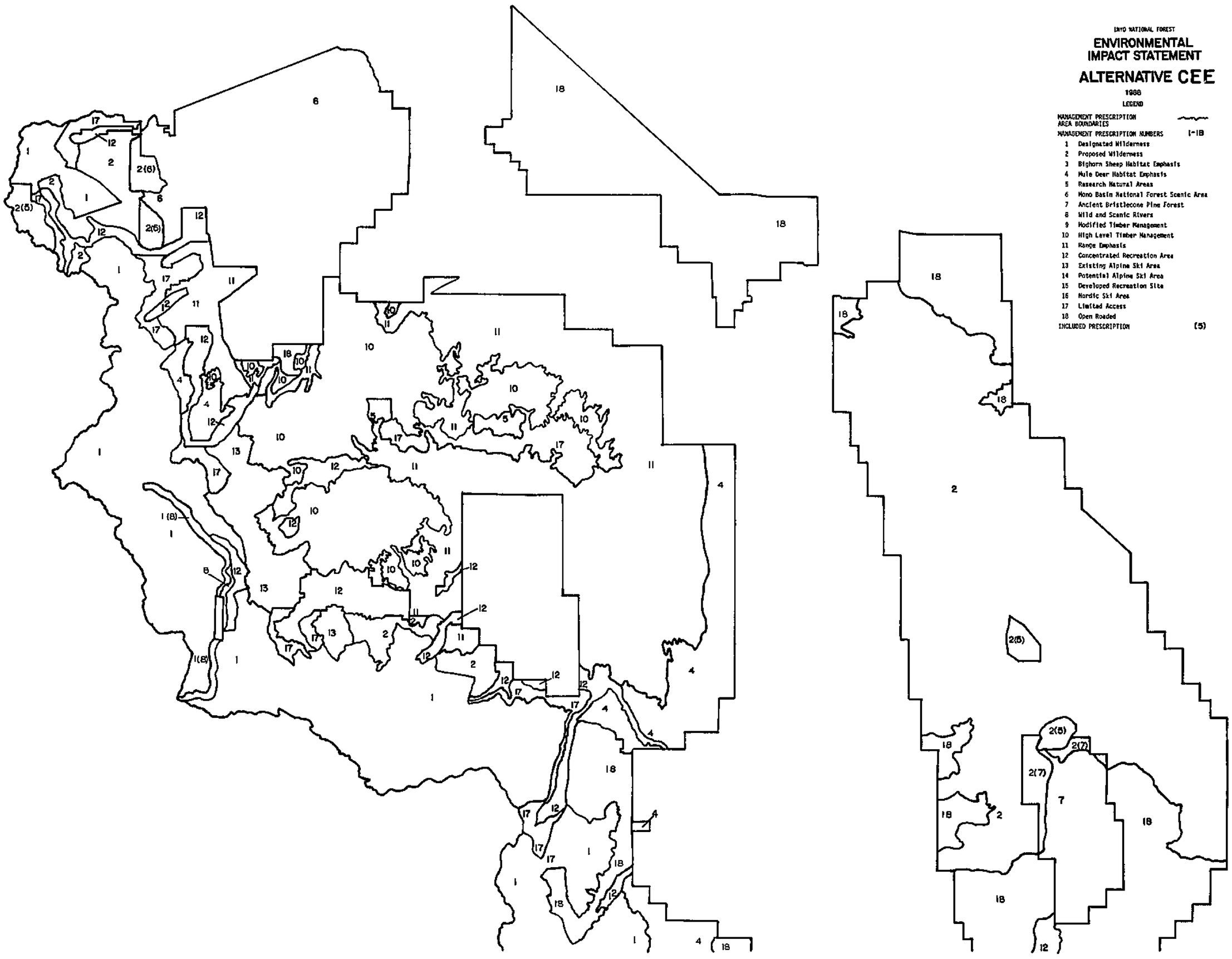
Summer visitors to the Forest in the year 2030 will find noticeably more recreationists, as use will have increased nearly 60 percent since 1982. There will many be more campgrounds, day-use sites, and trails of all kinds. Facilities will be better maintained and services will have improved. On the other hand, the recreation experience will be compromised in concentrated recreation areas with suitable timber, as that timber will be harvested outside of developed sites.

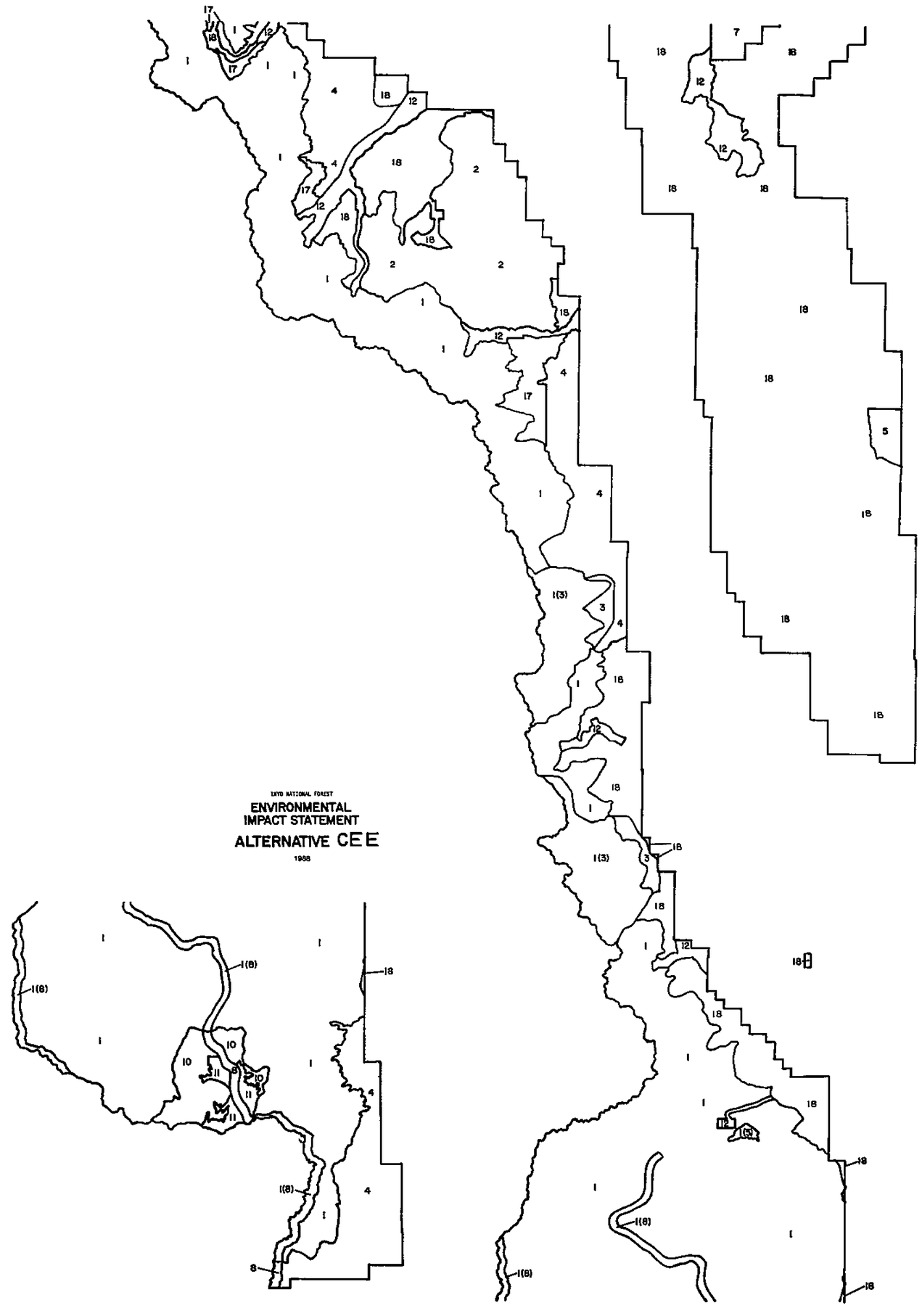
Anglers will find increased fishing opportunities due both to full stream habitat enhancement and full watershed improvement. Hunters, on the other hand will experience substantially declining deer populations where ski areas, geothermal development, community growth, and timber harvest had obstructed migration routes and improved access, increasing overall use and disturbance of deer habitat.

The type of use in the Monache area will have changed with improved access for timber harvest. More people will use the area as a wilderness entry point, and fewer will find the remote camping and four-wheel drive recreation typical of 1982. Visitors to the White Mountains will see some increase in use by backpackers and stock parties using the wilderness. Use of the Coyote Plateau will change due to wilderness designation. Most of the existing vehicle-based camping, fishing, and driving for pleasure will be lost, as vehicles will be confined to constructed roads. Non-motorized recreation will increase, as potential conflicts with vehicle users will be eliminated.

Vegetation will differ little in appearance as seen from U.S. 395, State Highway 203, and other Scenic Highways. Views from other roads and viewpoints north and east of Mammoth Lakes and in the Monache area will show a moderate increase in plantations of small trees and logging debris. Timber harvest will also be found in concentrated recreation areas with suitable timber.

Winter visitors will encounter three times as many alpine skiers and skiing opportunities as in 1982. Mammoth and June Mountains will have developed fully, and additional skiing will be found in the Sherwin Bowl, Minaret Summit, Mammoth Knolls, San Joaquin Ridge, and White Wing areas. Nordic trails and support facilities will have developed Forest-wide. The communities of Mammoth and June Lake will have grown and urbanized dramatically in support of increased skiing.


INYO NATIONAL FOREST
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
ALTERNATIVE CEE
1986
LEGEND
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AREA BOUNDARIES
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION NUMBERS 1-18
1 Designated Wilderness
2 Proposed Wilderness
3 Bighorn Sheep Habitat Emphasis
4 Mule Deer Habitat Emphasis
5 Research Natural Areas
6 Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area
7 Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest
8 Wild and Scenic Rivers
9 Modified Timber Management
10 High Level Timber Management
11 Range Emphasis
12 Concentrated Recreation Area
13 Existing Alpine Ski Area
14 Potential Alpine Ski Area
15 Developed Recreation Site
16 Nordic Ski Area
17 Limited Access
18 Open Roaded
INCLUDED PRESCRIPTION (5)



UVD NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE CEE

1986

Table 10
Acreage Allocations by Management Prescription
Alternative CEE

Management Prescription	M Acres	Percent of Forest
1. Designated Wilderness	565.1	29.4
2. Proposed Wilderness	339.8	17.6
3. Mountain Sheep	4.9	0.3
4. Mule Deer Emphasis	108.1	5.6
5. Research Natural Area*	6.3 (9.3)	0.3
6. Mono Basin NF Scenic Area*	40.2 (4.8)	2.1
7. Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest*	21.5 (6.0)	1.1
8. Wild and Scenic River*	4.3 (19.4)	0.2
9. Uneven-aged Timber Management	0	0
10. High Level Timber Management	97.7	5.1
11. Range	144.4	7.5
12. Concentrated Recreation Area	44.1	2.3
13. Alpine Ski Area, Existing and Under Study	21.8	1.1
14. Potential Alpine Ski Area	0	0
15. Developed Recreation Site	2.1	0.1
16. Dispersed Recreation	0	0
17. Semi-Primitive Recreation	68.0	3.4
18. Multiple Resource Area	461.4	23.9

* Acres with dual designation (existing or proposed wilderness and RNA, Scenic Area, etc.) are displayed in the acreage total for Prescriptions 1 or 2 and indicated in parentheses under the other applicable prescription.

Table 11
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CEE

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
FACILITIES								
Administrative Sites								
-Forest Service owned (no.)	6	-	-	8	8	8	8	8
-leased (no.)	1	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Dams and Reservoirs								
-Forest Service (no.)	3	-	-	3	3	3	3	3
-State/local (no.)	4	-	-	4	4	4	4	4
-private (no.)	11	-	-	11	11	11	11	11
Roads (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	0.6	3.5	2.4	0	0
-timber	0	-	-	0.6	1.5	0	0	0
-recreation	0	-	-	0	2.0	2.4	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	20	-	-	21	21	21	21	21
-timber	15	-	-	16	16	16	16	16
-recreation	5	-	-	5	5	5	5	5
Maintenance (tot.)	974	-	-	977	1001	1022	1031	1040
Trails (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	26.3	26.2	10.0	10.0	0
-existing wilderness	-	-	-	0.7	0.6	0	0	0
-recommended wilderness	0	-	-	3.0	3.0	0	0	0
-concentrated rec. areas	0	-	-	9.0	9.0	0	0	0
-open NF	0	-	-	1.0	1.0	0	0	0
-OHV	0	-	-	2.6	2.6	0	0	0
-nordic	0	-	-	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	10.8	-	-	36.3	36.3	59.9	76.3	76.3
-existing wilderness	9.0	-	-	12.6	12.6	22.7	25.0	25.0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	0.6	0.6	1.7	2.4	2.4
-concentrated rec. areas	0	-	-	4.2	4.2	7.3	11.3	11.3
-open NF	0	-	-	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.9	2.9
-OHV	0	-	-	13.5	13.5	14.5	15.5	15.5
-nordic	0	-	-	3.2	3.2	11.2	19.2	19.2

Table 11 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CEE

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
Trails (cont'd)								
Maintenance (tot.)	1236	-	-	1517	1767	1867	1967	1967
LANDS AND MINERALS								
Land acquired (acres)	60	0	0	54	270	270	150	70
Leasable minerals (total power plants)	0	-	-	1	3	5	6	6
Locatable minerals (operating plans)	67	320	408	46	48	51	55	55
PROTECTION								
Fuel Treatment (acres)								
-total	18	500	400	1412	376	373	791	2023
-fire related	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-timber related	18	-	-	61	58	57	88	117
-range related	0	-	-	316	316	316	316	1168
-wildlife related	0	-	-	1035	2	0	387	738
Expected Wildfire (acres)								
-total	747	-	-	1134	1213	1300	1395	1410
-intensity level 1	13	-	-	9	10	10	11	11
-intensity level 2	34	-	-	124	132	142	152	154
-intensity level 3	53	-	-	70	75	80	86	87
-intensity level 4	647	-	-	313	335	359	385	389
-intensity level 5	0	-	-	618	661	709	761	769
RANGE (M AUMs)	41.4	42.4	44.5	48.6	50.4	53.6	54.0	46.5
RECREATION USE (M RVD)								
Developed Public	1201	3510	5100	1772	2252	2252	2252	2252
Developed Private	1635			1914	2421	3131	3895	4024
Dispersed	1004	2490	3120	1190	1820	2157	2281	2441
Wilderness	540			667	711	762	815	838
Visual Quality Index	142.07	-	-	142.10	142.12	142.14	142.16	142.16

Table 11 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CEE

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
TIMBER								
ASQ (MMBF)	10.5	16.8	19.8	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	10.1
Fuelwood (M cords)	10.0	-	-	7.2	12.9	9.7	5.1	5.0
Long Term Sustained Yield (MMBF)	-	-	-	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7
Reforestation (acres)	300	614	718	307	288	284	442	558
Timber Stand Improvement (acres)	328	900	918	578	480	106	0	0
WATER								
Quality (M acre-ft.)	1047	476	481	1051	1055	1059	1063	1067
Increased Quantity (M acre-feet)	-	-	-	7.0	0	0	0	0
Watershed Improvement (acres)	100	180	200	500	500	500	500	350
WILDLIFE AND FISH								
Mule Deer								
(M animals total)	20.2	+20 percent		20.0	19.5	18.8	18.1	17.4
(M animals on Inyo)	12.0			11.9	11.6	11.1	10.7	10.3
Bald Eagle** (winter roosting areas)	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Peregrine Falcon** (no. of pairs)	0	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
Goshawks (pairs in suitable timber)	15	-	-	14	13	12	11	9
Nelson Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	130	-	-	130	130	130	130	130
Sierra Nevada Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	300	-	-	330	360	390	420	450

Table 11 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative CEE

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
WILDLIFE AND FISH (cont'd)								
Lahontan CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	1	-	-	.3	.5	.5	.5	.5
Paiute CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	3	-	-	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Resident Trout (M pounds)	1632	+20 percent		1643	1655	1666	1678	1689
Total Wildlife/Fish User Days (M WFUDs)	391.0	-	-	394.3	398.5	402.5	409.3	414.8
- mule deer	25.2	-	-	25.0	24.4	23.3	22.5	21.6
- resident trout	340.0	-	-	342.4	344.8	347.2	349.6	351.9
- other	25.8	-	-	26.9	29.3	32.0	37.2	41.3
Derived from direct habitat improvement								
- mule deer	0.1	-	-	0.2	<0.1	0	0.1	0.2
- resident trout	.0	-	-	1.5	3.0	4.5	6.0	7.5
- other	0	-	-	0.3	0	0	0	0
Derived from induced habitat improvement								
- mule deer	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
- resident trout	0.1	-	-	0.9	1.8	2.7	3.6	4.4
- other	0.1	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Units of direct habitat improvement								
- mule deer (M ac.)	0.5	-	-	1.5	0.1	0	0.8	1.4
- resident trout (ac.)	0	0	0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8
- other (M ac.)	0	-	-	2.8	0	0	0	0
HUMAN RESOURCES								
Programs (enrollees)	39	14	14	39	39	39	39	39
TOTAL BUDGET (MM$)	**9.9**	**11.1**	**12.2**	**11.9**	**13.4**	**13.5**	**14.3**	**17.1**
TOTAL COST (MM$)	**10.3**	**-**	**-**	**12.8**	**14.3**	**14.4**	**15.2**	**18.0**

*Threatened, **Endangered.

AMN: MAXIMIZE AMENITY VALUES

Theme

Under this alternative, amenities are maximized with little regard for the effects on commodity outputs. Wilderness, wildlife, and primitive and semi-primitive dispersed recreation are emphasized. There is no budget limitation in the FORPLAN model.

The issues and concerns addressed by this alternative are: (1) considering the importance of amenity values as an aspect of net public benefit; (2) managing vegetative diversity, riparian areas, and wildlife habitat at levels above minimum management requirements; (3) emphasizing the quality of primitive and semi-primitive types of recreation while deemphasizing the quantity of outputs; and (4) recommending substantial acreage for wilderness.

The wilderness land base will be increased by the addition of all Further Planning Areas that are at least minimally suitable for wilderness, considering wilderness characteristics and boundary manageability.

Wildlife habitat will be managed with the objectives of: (1) increasing mule deer habitat capacity at least 20 percent in response to the RPA goal; (2) maximizing habitat for threatened and endangered species; (3) meeting the RPA goal of at least maintaining current habitat capacity for cavity-nesting birds; (4) maximizing habitat capacity for sensitive and special interest species; and (5) maintaining or enhancing habitat for all other native vertebrate species. Fish habitat will be managed with the objectives of responding to projected levels of dispersed recreation and maximizing habitat for threatened trout.

Dispersed recreation will be managed with an emphasis on the quality of the experience, rather than the quantity of use. Primitive and semi-primitive opportunities and a high level of scenic quality will be emphasized. Developed summer recreation will be managed with the objective of maintaining current levels of use through the fifth decade. Alpine ski area development will increase at a rate that responds to demand to the level projected in the Mammoth-Mono Unit Plan.

Timber will be managed for commercial production to the extent compatible with cost efficiency and amenity objectives.

Domestic livestock grazing will be managed to the extent compatible with wildlife objectives.

Resource Program Direction

Cultural Resources: Complete the Forest-wide inventory of cultural resource properties by the year 2030, at an average rate of 45,000 acres per year, including both project-specific and formal surveys. Meet cultural resource requirements for project implementation using a balanced program of impact avoidance (protection), site-specific evaluations, and type-of-site evaluations. Develop and implement a formal site protection and monitoring program. Undertake cultural resource enhancement and interpretation activities as the opportunity arises.

Facilities: Construct a total of 14 miles of road for developed recreation site access, but no new roads for timber management over the next 50 years. Construct a total of 429 miles of trail for hikers, equestrians, nordic skiers, and OHVs. Reconstruct the road and trail system on a programmed basis; maintain to assigned maintenance levels. Construct one additional administrative site for the new Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area.

Fish: Improve a total of 134 acres of stream habitat in concentrated recreation areas and 56 acres in native golden trout habitat on the Kern Plateau. Establish 24 acres of habitat for threatened Paiute cutthroat trout and 16 acres for Lahontan cutthroat trout. Negotiate with FERC and the affected utility companies to rewater at least 27 acres of stream for the reestablishment of resident trout fisheries. Watershed improvement work will also benefit fish habitat.

Lands: Pursue landownership adjustments to protect or enhance wilderness values, wildlife or fish habitat, dispersed recreation, or visual resource values.

Minerals: Encourage the development of geothermal resources according to current agreements in Lease Blocks I and II. Consider additional geothermal exploration and development in response to lease applications on any additional Forest lands outside of designated or recommended wilderness. Allow mineral activity to be restricted by the large acreage in recommended wilderness.

Pest Management: Respond to the low overall need and opportunity for pest management based on the low levels of developed recreation use and lack of new site construction and the low level opportunity to manage vegetation associated with low level timber outputs.

Protection: Apply the following fire management program: (1) prevention and detection represent 17 percent of the program; (2) suppression and aviation represent 83 percent of the program; (3) there is no fuels treatment for fire management purposes; (4) total staffing at the 1982 level; and (5) all appropriate wildfire suppression strategies (confinement, containment, and control) are applied.

Range: Intensify the management of rangelands by an average of 690 acres of vegetation treatment per year where compatible with amenity objectives; treat by prescribed burning on 348 of those acres. Allow for grazing to be reduced due to vegetation changes resulting from timber management on lands suitable for both timber and range management. Apply the guideline of 50 percent forage utilization by livestock. Remove cattle from key mule deer winter range. Delay grazing in key fawning habitat until after July 15.

Recreation: Retain all existing concentrated recreation areas and existing developed sites. Construct new interpretive and day-use facilities as the opportunity arises. Operate facilities and administer permits at standard level of service.

Consider proposals to increase alpine ski area capacity to the 31,000 SAOT currently approved. Added capacity will be limited to the existing Mammoth and June Mountain ski areas.

Manage for increasing dispersed use that will result from a greatly expanded wilderness base, the projected upgrading of U.S. 395 and Highway 203, the expansion of existing nordic ski resorts, and a 50 percent increase in the winter overnight base in local communities. Manage dispersed recreation use by developing a moderate number of trails and other facilities to protect soil, water quality, and vegetation. Manage dispersed use at standard levels of service.

Emphasize control of OHV use. Minimize the number of open areas in response to the Forest-wide emphasis on non-motorized recreation and the large acreage in wilderness.

Maintain the following lands in continuing unroaded condition with an emphasis on dispersed recreation in the Primitive and Semi-Primitive ROS categories: the Monache area, the Coyote Plateau outside recommended wilderness, lands outside wilderness and concentrated recreation areas in the Mammoth Lakes Basin and the upper Rock Creek drainage, the Sherwin Bowl area, unroaded lands along and to the east of San Joaquin Ridge, and Glass Mountain Ridge.

Research Natural Areas: Complete the establishment process for the Whippoorwill Flat and McAfee Meadow RNAs.

Riparian Areas: Prohibit any new activities in riparian areas that will have unacceptable long-term effects on water quality, fish (or other aquatic animals), or water-dependent plant life. The fish habitat and watershed improvement work discussed under separate headings will also be expected to benefit riparian areas.

Special Interest Areas: Evaluate identified candidate Special Interest Areas and recommend the establishment of those selected by 1990.

Timber: Manage timber under the uneven-aged management system on suitable lands with the following exceptions:

1. Do not manage for commercial timber outputs on existing or potential concentrated recreation areas or developed alpine ski areas, or lands with a primitive/semiprimitive recreation emphasis.

2. Modify timber management as needed to meet the Retention Visual Quality Objective in the foreground zones of Sensitivity Level 1 and 2 roads.

Provide fuelwood in response to demand. If the supply of logging residue falls below the demand for fuelwood, consider supplying some fuelwood out of the programmed harvest.

Visual Resources: Assign prescribed Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) with the following exceptions.

1. Timber management must meet or exceed the VQOs of Retention in the foreground zones of Sensitivity Level 1 or 2 roads and trails, and Partial Retention on all other lands. Openings should be limited to 20 acres or less.

2. Ski lifts, runs, and base facilities must meet or exceed the Partial Retention VQO from any viewpoint.

3. Activities in areas managed under the Semi-Primitive Recreation Prescription with an emphasis on visual quality or dispersed recreation must meet the Retention VQO.

Watershed: Implement the Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) plan at an average rate of 470 acres per year, resulting in the completion of all work identified in that plan by the end of the fifth decade.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: Wild and Scenic River recommendations are the same under all alternatives. Those recommendations are described above under the heading of Management Prescriptions that are area-specific in all alternatives.

Wilderness: Recommend the following Further Planning Areas for wilderness designation: Coyote SE, Table Mountain, Buttermilk, Wheeler Ridge, Laurel-McGee, Horse Meadow, Tioga Lake, Hall Natural Area, Log Cabin-Saddlebag, White Mountains, Andrews Mountain, and the Paiute area. Containment will be the primary wildfire suppression strategy for natural fires in wilderness.

Wildlife: Increase mule deer habitat capacity at least 20 percent in response to the RPA goal. Prohibit timber management and ski area development on migration routes. Enhance deer habitat by vegetation treatment, emphasizing key winter range at an average rate of 820 acres per year (410 acres of which will be accomplished by prescribed burning). Remove livestock from key deer winter range. Defer grazing on key fawning areas until after July 15.

Maintain the integrity of the existing bald eagle winter roosting area.

Provide for four nesting pairs of reintroduced peregrine falcons.

Maintain all existing goshawk nesting territories in suitable timber; allocate 100 acres to each nesting pair.

Provide for seven additional herds of reintroduced Sierra Nevada mountain sheep if suitable habitat can be found.

Provide for one Nelson mountain sheep reintroduction.

Maintain at least 30 percent of suitable timber in older seral stages. Of that acreage, ensure that approximately 6,500 acres are adequately distributed throughout the affected timber types.

Maintain or create snags to meet 100 percent of the natural potential density of snag-dependent wildlife.

Environment to be Created in the Year 2030

Summer visitors to the Forest in the year 2030 will find only a slight increase in recreationists, as no additional campgrounds will have been developed. There will, however, be more day-use sites and trails of all kinds. Facilities will be better maintained and services will have improved.

Anglers will find increased fishing opportunities due to a moderate amount of stream habitat enhancement and full implementation of the watershed improvement program. Hunters will also experience improved opportunities, as deer populations will have increased with habitat improvement; removal of cattle from winter range; protection of migration routes and fawning areas; and the overall low levels of development, improved access, and increased use.

The type of use in the Monache area will remain the same, as the area will still be accessible only to four-wheel drive vehicles. Visitors to the White and Inyo Mountains will see some increase in use by backpackers and stock parties using the wilderness. Use of the Coyote Plateau will change under wilderness designation. Most of the existing vehicle-based camping, fishing, and driving for pleasure will be lost, as vehicles will be confined to constructed roads. Non-motorized recreation will increase, as potential conflicts with vehicle users will be eliminated.

Vegetation will differ little in appearance from any viewpoint. Plantations of small trees and logging debris will be even less prevalent than in 1982.

Winter visitors will encounter a 50 percent increase in alpine skiers and skiing opportunities. Mammoth and June Mountains will have developed fully, but no additional ski areas will have developed. Nordic trails and support facilities will have developed Forest-wide. The communities of Mammoth and June Lake will have grown and urbanized somewhat in support of increased skiing.

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE AMN

1980

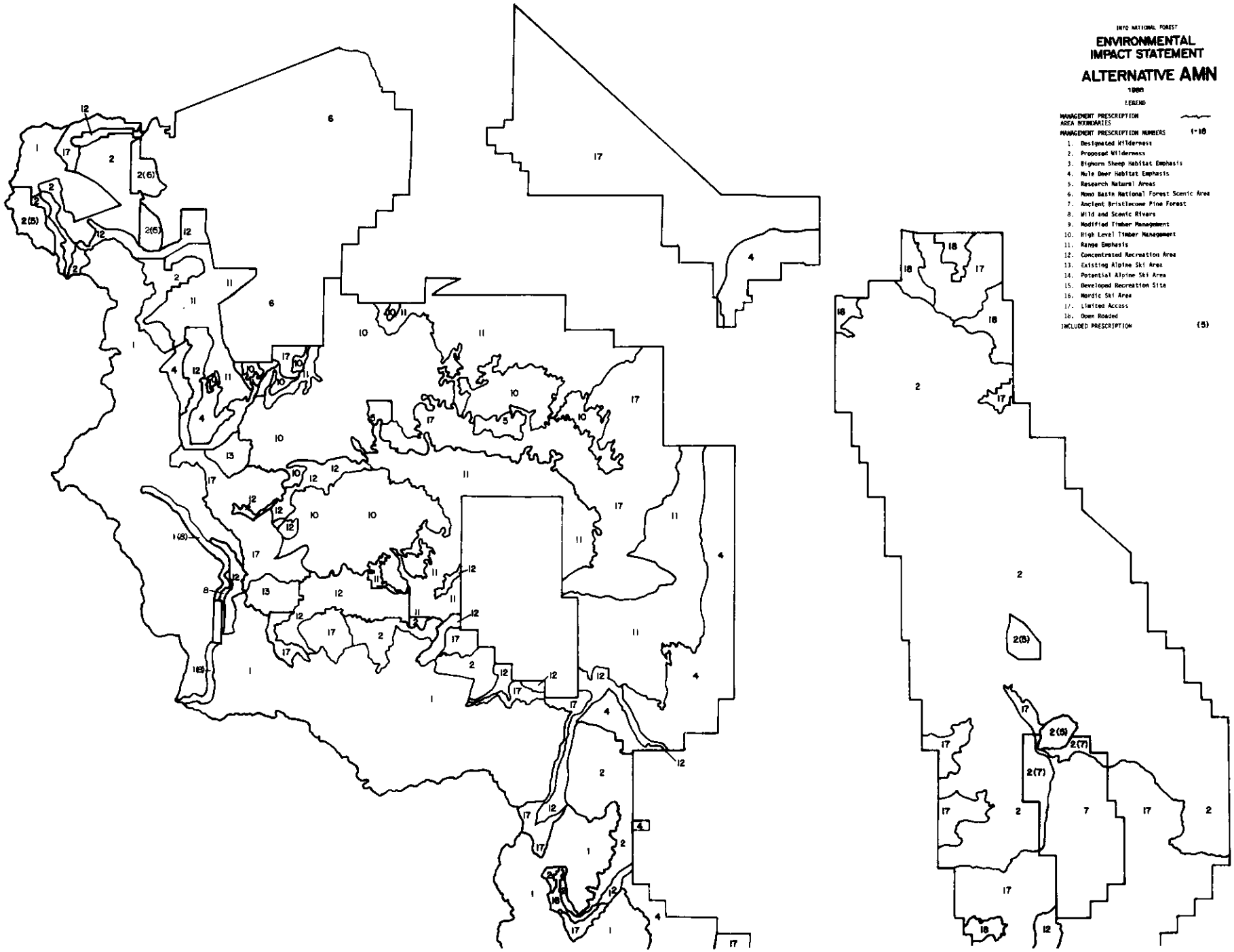
LEGEND

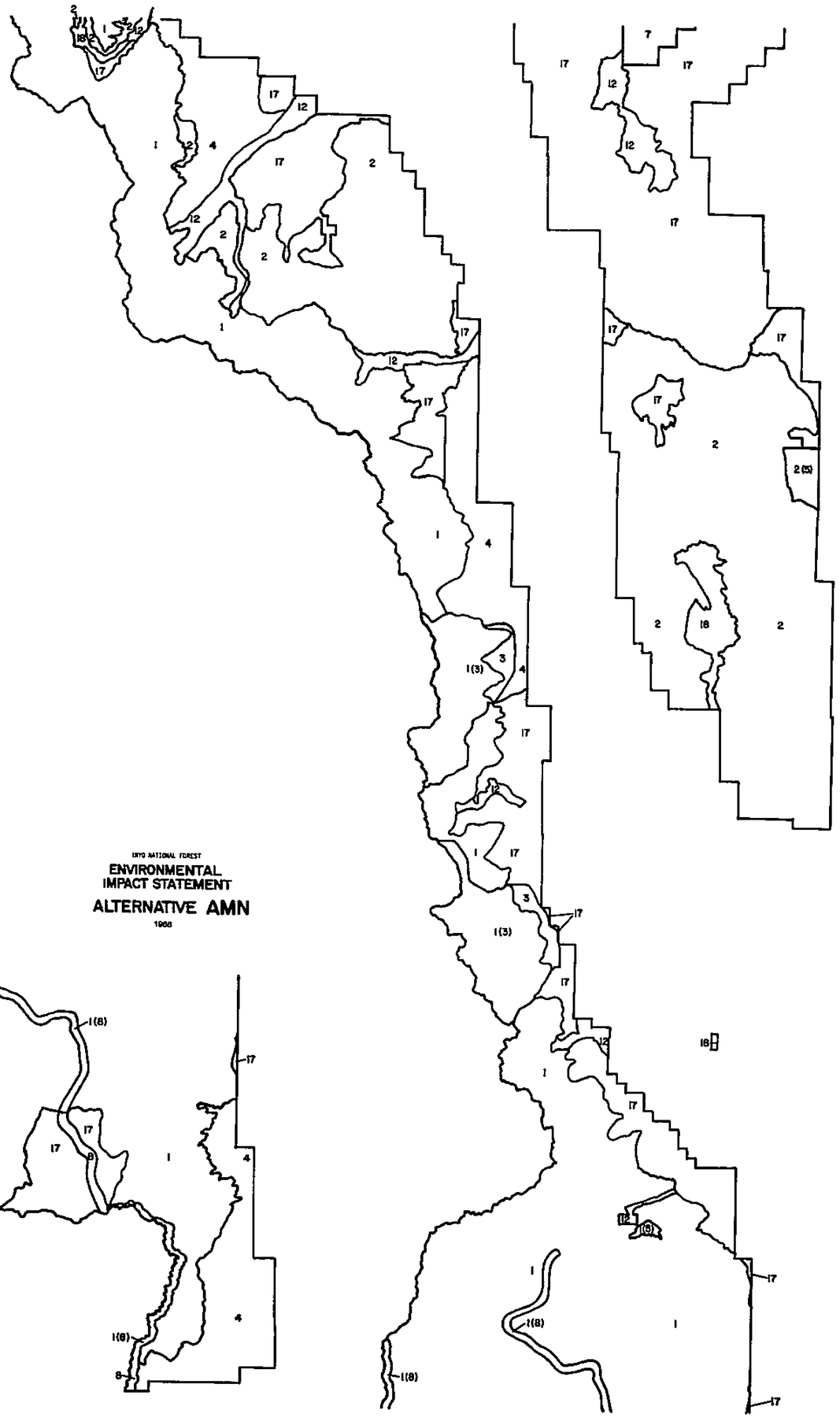
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AREA BOUNDARIES

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION NUMBERS 1-18

1. Designated Wilderness
2. Proposed Wilderness
3. Bighorn Sheep Habitat Emphasis
4. Mule Deer Habitat Emphasis
5. Research Natural Areas
6. Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area
7. Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest
8. Wild and Scenic Rivers
9. Modified Timber Management
10. High Level Timber Management
11. Range Emphasis
12. Concentrated Recreation Area
13. Existing Alpine Ski Area
14. Potential Alpine Ski Area
15. Developed Recreation Site
16. Nordic Ski Area
17. Limited Access
18. Open Roaded

INCLUDED PRESCRIPTION (5)





UINTA NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE AMN

1988

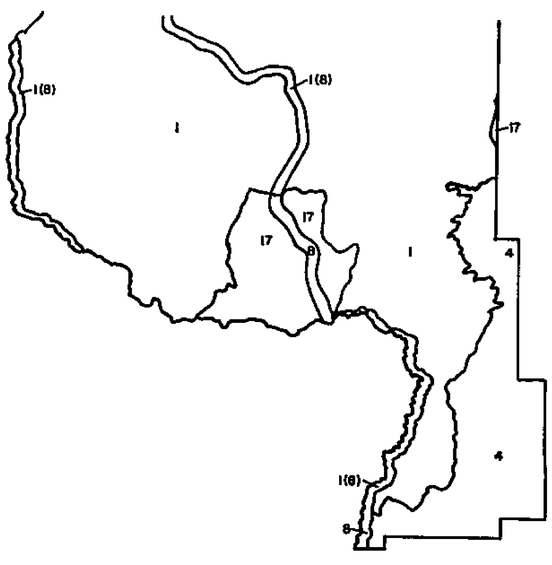


Table 12
Acreage Allocations by Management Prescription
Alternative AMN

Management Prescription	M Acres	Percent of Forest
1. Designated Wilderness	565.1	29.4
2. Proposed Wilderness	510.8	26.5
3. Mountain Sheep	4.9	0.3
4. Mule Deer	117.6	6.1
5. Research Natural Area*	3.0 (12.6)	0.2
6. Mono Basin NF Scenic Area*	40.2 (4.8)	2.1
7. Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest*	21.5 (6.0)	1.1
8. Wild and Scenic River*	4.3 (19.4)	0.2
9. Uneven-aged Timber Management	97.3	4.9
10. High Level Timber Management	0	0
11. Range	95.8	4.9
12. Concentrated Recreation Area	48.2	2.5
13. Alpine Ski Area, Existing and Under Study	6.2	0.3
14. Potential Alpine Ski Area	0	0
15. Developed Recreation Site	1.4	0.1
16. Dispersed Recreation	0	0
17. Semi-Primitive Recreation	387.0	20.0
18. Multiple Resource Area	26.4	1.4

* Acres with dual designation (existing or proposed wilderness and RNA, Scenic Area, etc.) are displayed in the acreage total for Prescriptions 1 or 2 and indicated in parentheses under the other applicable prescription.

Table 13
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMN

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
FACILITIES								
Administrative Sites								
-Forest Service owned (no.)	6	-	-	8	8	8	8	8
-leased (no.)	1	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Dams and Reservoirs								
-Forest Service (no.)	3	-	-	3	3	3	3	3
-State/local (no.)	4	-	-	4	4	4	4	4
-private (no.)	11	-	-	11	11	11	11	11
Roads (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	1.4	0	0	0	0
-timber	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-recreation	0	-	-	1.4	0	0	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	20	-	-	13	13	13	13	13
-timber	15	-	-	11	11	11	11	11
-recreation	5	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
Maintenance (tot.)	974	-	-	981	984	988	993	998
Trails (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	19.0	18.9	5.0	0	0
-existing wilderness	0	-	-	0.7	0.6	0	0	0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	3.3	3.3	0	0	0
-concentrated rec. areas	0	-	-	4.0	4.0	0	0	0
-open NF	0	-	-	1.0	1.0	0	0	0
-OHV	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-nordic	0	-	-	10.0	10.0	5.0	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	10.8	-	-	34.9	34.8	52.6	64.5	64.4
-existing wilderness	9.0	-	-	12.6	12.6	22.7	25.0	25.0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	1.9	1.8	2.6	5.2	5.1
-concentrated rec. areas	1.8	-	-	4.2	4.2	5.8	7.4	7.4
-open NF	0	-	-	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.9	2.9
-OHV	0	-	-	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8
-nordic	0	-	-	3.2	3.2	8.2	13.2	13.2

Table 13 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMN

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
Trails (cont'd)								
Maintenance (tot.)	1236	-	-	1489	1678	1728	1728	1728
LANDS AND MINERALS								
Land acquired (acres)	60	0	0	54	220	220	120	60
Leasable minerals (total power plants)	0	-	-	1	3	5	6	6
Locatable minerals (operating plans)	67	320	408	29	30	32	33	33
PROTECTION								
Fuel Treatment (acres)								
-total	18	500	400	1461	266	297	735	1565
-fire related	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-timber related	18	-	-	6	6	17	51	66
-range related	0	-	-	202	280	280	280	696
-wildlife related	0	-	-	1253	0	0	404	803
Expected Wildfire (acres)								
-total	747	-	-	927	972	972	972	972
-intensity level 1	13	-	-	9	10	10	10	10
-intensity level 2	34	-	-	57	58	58	58	58
-intensity level 3	53	-	-	65	68	68	68	68
-intensity level 4	647	-	-	241	253	253	253	253
-intensity level 5	0	-	-	556	583	583	583	583
RANGE (M AUMs)	41.4	42.2	44.5	35.6	35.6	38.0	38.0	35.1
RECREATION USE (M RVDs)								
Developed Public	1201	3510	5100	1293	1293	1293	1293	1293
Developed Private	1635			1914	2330	2330	2330	2330
Dispersed	1004	2490	3120	1114	1302	1579	1642	1738
Wilderness	540			680	724	777	834	863
Visual Quality Index	142.07	-	-	142.34	142.59	142.84	142.08	143.31

Table 13 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMN

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
TIMBER								
ASQ (MMBF)	10.5	16.8	19.8	2.7	3.5	4.2	5.1	6.3
Fuelwood (M cords)	10.0	-	-	4.2	8.2	3.0	3.2	3.0
Long Term Sustained Yield (MMBF)	-	-	-	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.6
Reforestation (acres)	300	614	718	32	32	84	255	332
Timber Stand Improvement (acres)	328	900	918	539	392	0	0	0
WATER								
Quality (M acre-ft.)	1047	476	481	1052	1062	1072	1082	1088
Increased Quantity (M acre-feet)	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Watershed Improvement (acres)	100	180	200	500	500	500	500	350
WILDLIFE AND FISH								
Mule Deer								
(M animals total)	20.2	+20 percent		20.7	21.2	21.7	22.2	22.6
(M animals on Inyo)	12.0			12.5	13.0	13.5	14.0	14.4
Bald Eagle** (winter roosting areas)	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Peregrine Falcon** (no. of pairs)	0	-	-	2	3	4	4	4
Goshawks (pairs in suitable timber)	15	-	-	15	15	15	15	15
Nelson Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	130	-	-	140	154	154	154	154
Sierra Nevada Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	300	-	-	350	400	500	700	1000

Table 13 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMN

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
WILDLIFE AND FISH (cont'd)								
Lahontan CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	1	-	-	.3	.5	.9	1.3	1.6
Paiute CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	3	-	-	1.3	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.4
Resident Trout (M pounds)	1632	+20 percent		1641	1651	1661	1670	1679
Total Wildlife/Fish User Days (M WFUDs)	391.0	-	-	395.0	403.2	409.7	416.7	411.6
- mule deer	25.2	-	-	26.2	27.3	28.3	29.4	30.2
- resident trout	340.0	-	-	341.9	343.9	345.9	347.9	349.7
- other	25.8	-	-	26.9	32.0	35.5	39.4	31.7
Derived from direct habitat improvement								
- mule deer	0.1	-	-	0.2	0	0	0.1	0.2
- resident trout	0	-	-	1.0	2.1	3.2	4.3	5.3
- other	0	-	-	0.6	0	0	0	0.2
Derived from induced habitat improvement								
- mule deer	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
- resident trout	0.1	-	-	0.9	1.8	2.7	3.6	4.4
- other	0.1	-	-	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Units of Direct Habitat Improvement								
- mule deer (M acres)	0.5	-	-	1.8	0	0	0.8	1.5
- resident trout (ac.)	0	0	0	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3
- other (M acres)	0	-	-	3.4	0	0	0	0.3
HUMAN RESOURCES								
Programs (enrollees)	39	14	14	39	39	39	39	39
TOTAL BUDGET (MM$)	**9.9**	**11.1**	**12.2**	**12.9**	**9.9**	**10.4**	**11.6**	**13.1**
TOTAL COST (MM$)	**10.3**	**-**	**-**	**13.9**	**10.9**	**11.4**	**12.6**	**14.1**

*Threatened, **Endangered.

AMB - EMPHASIZE WILDLIFE AND RECREATION

Theme

This alternative places a primary emphasis on the quality and quantity of wildlife habitat with a secondary emphasis on moderate expansion of the developed recreation program. Other commodity outputs are produced to the degree compatible with wildlife and recreation objectives. Amenity values other than wildlife receive a moderate degree of emphasis. There is no budget limitation.

The issues and concerns addressed in this alternative are: (1) managing habitat for fish and wildlife above minimum management requirements; (2) restoring and enhancing riparian areas; (3) offering a full and diverse recreation program; (4) recommending substantial acreage for wilderness; and (5) maintaining current levels of grazing in suitable timber.

Wildlife habitat will be managed with the objectives of: (1) increasing mule deer habitat capacity; (2) maximizing habitat for threatened and endangered species; (3) maximizing habitat for sensitive and special interest species; and (4) moderately improving ecological diversity to enhance habitat for other native vertebrate species. Fish habitat will be managed with the objectives of responding to projected increases in dispersed recreation, and maximizing habitat for threatened trout.

Developed recreation will be managed with the objective of increasing use 30 to 35 percent by the year 2030. Alpine ski area development will increase in response to demand where compatible with wildlife objectives. The management of dispersed summer and winter recreation will provide for an increase in use roughly proportional to developed site use.

The wilderness land base will be increased by the addition of Further Planning Areas with moderate to high wilderness recreation values and/or ecological types not yet represented in wilderness on the Inyo.

Domestic livestock grazing will be managed to the extent compatible with wildlife objectives.

Timber will be managed for maximum production to the extent compatible with cost-efficiency and wildlife, recreation, and range objectives.

Resource Program Direction

Cultural Resources: Complete the Forest-wide inventory of cultural resource properties by the year 2030, at an average rate of 45,000 acres per year, including both project-specific and formal surveys. Meet cultural resource requirements using a balanced program of impact avoidance (protection), site-specific evaluations, and type-of-site evaluations. Develop and implement a formal site protection and monitoring program. Emphasize cultural resource enhancement and interpretation in association with the developed recreation program.

Facilities: Construct a total of 38 miles of road for developed recreation site access, but no new roads to facilitate timber management over the next

50 years. Construct a total of 509 miles of trail for hikers, equestrians, nordic skiers, and OHVs. Reconstruct the road and trail system on a programmed basis; maintain to assigned maintenance levels. Construct one additional administrative site for the new Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area.

Fish: Improve a total of 156 acres of stream habitat in concentrated recreation areas and 56 acres in native golden trout habitat on the Kern Plateau. Establish 24 acres of habitat for threatened Paiute cutthroat trout and 16 acres for Lahontan cutthroat trout. Negotiate with FERC and the affected utility companies to rewater at least 27 acres of stream for the reestablishment of resident trout fisheries. Watershed improvement work will also benefit fish habitat.

Lands: Pursue landownership adjustments to protect and enhance key habitat for emphasized wildlife species. Acquire lands (if they become available) in Lee Vining Canyon and Lundy Canyon for recreation purposes.

Minerals: Encourage the development of geothermal resources according to current agreements in Lease Blocks I and II. Consider additional geothermal exploration and development in response to lease applications on any additional Forest lands outside of designated or recommended wilderness. Allow for mineral activity to be restricted by the moderately large acreage in recommended wilderness.

Pest Management: Respond to the moderate overall need and opportunity for pest management based on the moderate levels of developed recreation use and new site construction and the moderate opportunity to manage vegetation associated with moderate timber outputs.

Protection: Apply the following fire management program: (1) prevention and detection represent 17 percent of the program; (2) suppression and aviation represent 83 percent of the program; (3) there is no fuels treatment for fire management purposes; (4) total staffing at the 1982 level; and (5) all appropriate wildfire suppression strategies (confinement, containment, and control) are applied.

Range: Intensify the management of rangelands with an average of 830 acres of vegetation treatment per year where compatible with wildlife objectives; treat 498 of those acres by prescribed burning. Maintain current levels of grazing on lands suitable for both timber and range management. Apply the guideline of 50 percent forage utilization by livestock. Remove livestock from key mule deer winter range. Delay grazing in key fawning habitat until after July 15.

Recreation: Develop potential campgrounds and day-use sites with an emphasis on potential sites with the greatest projected use such as water-oriented sites in concentrated recreation areas. Develop interpretive sites as the opportunity arises. Operate facilities and administer permits at standard levels of service. Maintain all existing concentrated recreation areas.

Consider proposals to increase alpine ski area capacity 6,000 to 12,000 SAOT over the 31,000 currently approved. Added capacity will be envisioned for

the Minaret Summit, Mammoth Knolls, and White Wing potential ski areas to minimize conflicts with mule deer migration routes.

Manage for the increasing dispersed use that will result from moderate development of campgrounds and more than doubling the wintertime overnight base in local communities. Manage for the increased use associated with the projected upgrading of U.S. 395 and State Highway 203, an enlarged wilderness base, and the development of a major nordic ski area in the upper Dry Creek-Deadman Creek area. Provide a moderate level of trails, restrooms, parking areas, and interpretive signs to enhance year-round recreational opportunities and protect resources. Manage dispersed use at standard levels of service.

Control OHV use, including a reduction both in open summer and open winter area acreage.

Maintain the following lands in continuing unroaded condition with an emphasis on primitive and semi-primitive dispersed recreation: the Monache area, the Coyote Plateau outside recommended wilderness, lands outside wilderness and concentrated recreation areas in the Rock Creek drainage and the Mammoth Lakes Basin, the White and Inyo Mountains outside wilderness, and the Excelsior Mountains.

Research Natural Areas: Complete the establishment process for the Whippoorwill Flat and McAfee Meadow RNAs.

Riparian Areas: Prohibit new activities in riparian areas that will have unacceptable long-term effects on water quality, fish (or other aquatic animals), or water-dependent plant life. The fish habitat and watershed improvement work discussed under separate headings will also be expected to benefit riparian areas.

Special Interest Areas: Evaluate identified candidate Special Interest Areas and recommend establishment for those selected.

Timber: Manage timber for high level production where cost-effective on all suitable timber lands with the following exceptions:

1. Manage for moderate level production in the area east of San Joaquin Ridge and south of Deadman Creek.

2. Do not manage for commercial timber outputs on existing or potential concentrated recreation areas, developed alpine ski areas, or lands managed with a primary emphasis on primitive and semiprimitive recreation.

3. Modify timber management as needed to meet the Retention Visual Quality Objective in the foreground zones of Sensitivity Level 1 roads.

Provide fuelwood in response to demand. If the supply of logging residue falls below the demand for fuelwood, consider supplying some fuelwood out of the programmed harvest.

Visual Resources: Assign prescribed Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) with the following exceptions.

1. Ski lifts, runs, and base areas must meet or exceed the VQO of Partial Retention from any viewpoint.

2. Activities on lands managed under the limited access prescription with an emphasis on dispersed recreation must meet the VQO of Retention.

3. Timber openings should be limited to 20 acres or less.

Watershed: Implement the Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) plan at an average rate of 470 acres per year, resulting in the completion of all work identified in that plan by the end of the fifth decade.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: Wild and Scenic River recommendations are the same for all alternatives; those recommendations are described above under the heading of Management Prescriptions that are area-specific in all alternatives.

Wilderness: Recommend the following Further Planning Areas for wilderness designation: the western third of Coyote Southeast, Laurel-McGee, Tioga Lake, and Log Cabin-Saddlebag, the upper elevations of White Mountains/Boundary Peak, and the Pauite area. Containment will be the primary wildfire suppression strategy for natural fires in wilderness.

Wildlife: Enhance mule deer habitat by an average of 580 acres annual vegetation treatment on key winter range; apply prescribed burning to 260 of those acres. Remove cattle from key deer winter range. Delay grazing in key fawning habitat until after July 15. Prohibit ski area development or timber harvest on deer migration routes.

Maintain the integrity of the existing bald eagle winter roosting area.

Provide for four nesting pairs of reintroduced peregrine falcons.

Maintain all existing goshawk nesting territories in suitable timber; allocate 100 acres to each nesting pair.

Provide for seven additional herds of reintroduced Sierra Nevada mountain sheep if suitable habitat can be found.

Provide for one Nelson mountain sheep reintroduction.

Maintain at least 20 percent of suitable timber in older seral stages. Ensure that approximately 6,500 acres of this acreage is adequately distributed throughout the affected timber types.

Maintain or create snags to meet 100 percent of the natural potential density of snag-dependent wildlife.

Environment to be Created in the Year 2030

Summer visitors to the Forest in the year 2030 will find a moderate increase in recreationists. There will be additional campgrounds in the most heavily-used areas, and there will be more day-use sites and trails of all kinds Forest-wide. Facilities will be better maintained and services will have improved.

Anglers will find increased fishing opportunities due to a moderate amount of stream habitat enhancement and full implementation of the watershed improvement program. Hunters will also experience improved opportunities, as deer populations will have increased due to habitat improvement, removal of cattle from winter range, and protection of migration routes and fawning areas.

The type of use in the Monache area will remain the same, as the area will still be accessible only to four-wheel drive vehicles. Visitors to the White and Inyo Mountains will see some increase in use by backpackers and stock parties using the wilderness. Use of the Coyote Plateau will have changed very little, as the recommended wilderness portion of that area has traditionally been used for nonmotorized recreation.

Vegetation will differ little in appearance from any viewpoint. Plantations of small trees and logging debris will be even less prevalent than in 1982.

Winter visitors will encounter more than twice the alpine skiers and skiing opportunities as in 1982. Mammoth and June Mountains will have developed fully, along with additional ski areas in the Minaret Summit, Mammoth Knolls, and White Wing areas. There will be a major nordic resort in the upper Dry Creek-Deadman Creek area. Additional nordic trails and support facilities will have developed Forest-wide. The communities of Mammoth and June Lake will have grown and urbanized considerably in support of increased skiing.

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE AMB

1988

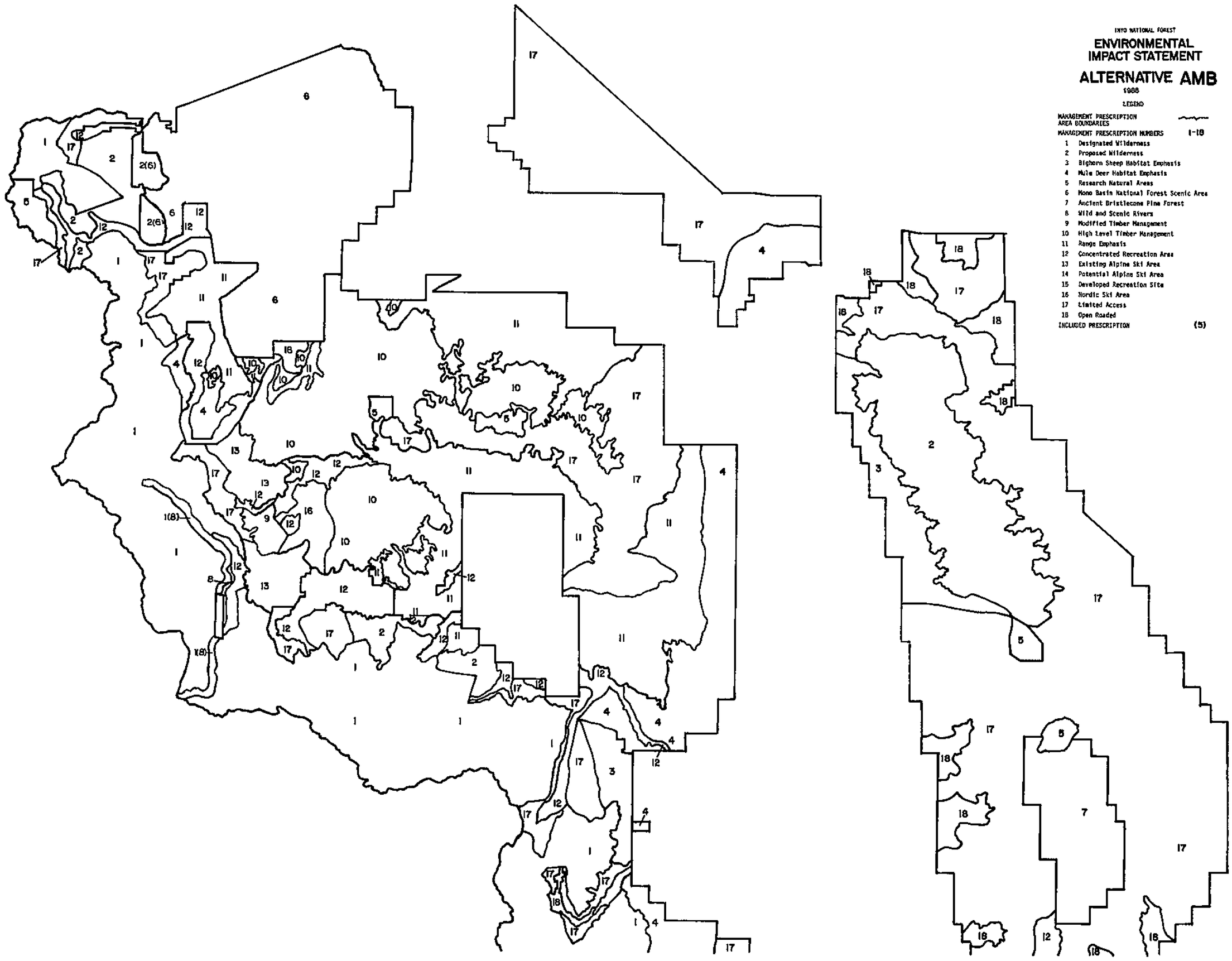
LEGEND

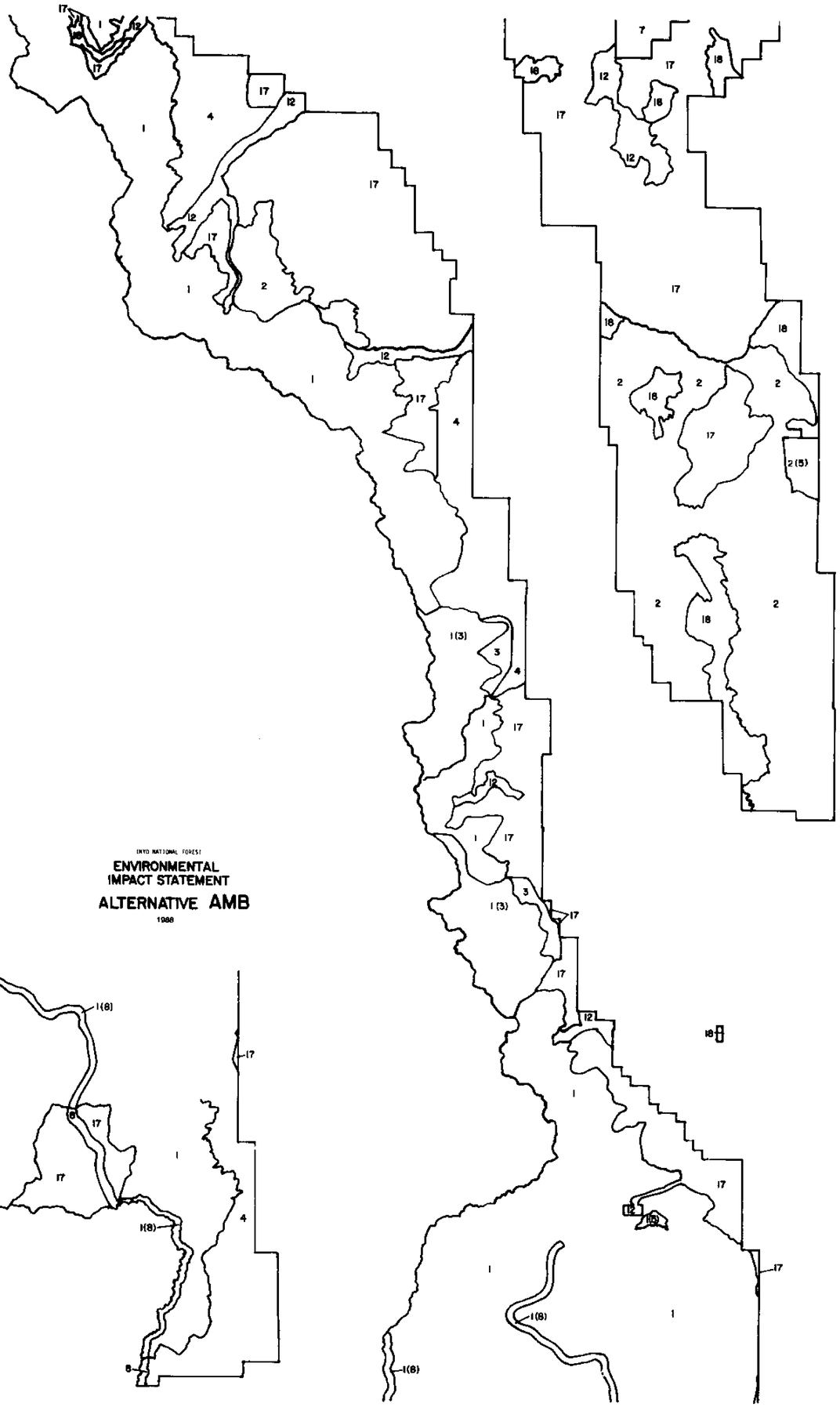
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AREA BOUNDARIES

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION NUMBERS 1-18

1 Designated Wilderness
2 Proposed Wilderness
3 Bighorn Sheep Habitat Emphasis
4 Mule Deer Habitat Emphasis
5 Research Natural Areas
6 Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area
7 Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest
8 Wild and Scenic Rivers
9 Modified Timber Management
10 High Level Timber Management
11 Range Emphasis
12 Concentrated Recreation Area
13 Existing Alpine Ski Area
14 Potential Alpine Ski Area
15 Developed Recreation Site
16 Nordic Ski Area
17 Limited Access
18 Open Roaded

INCLUDED PRESCRIPTION (5)





INYO NATIONAL FOREST

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ALTERNATIVE AMB

1988

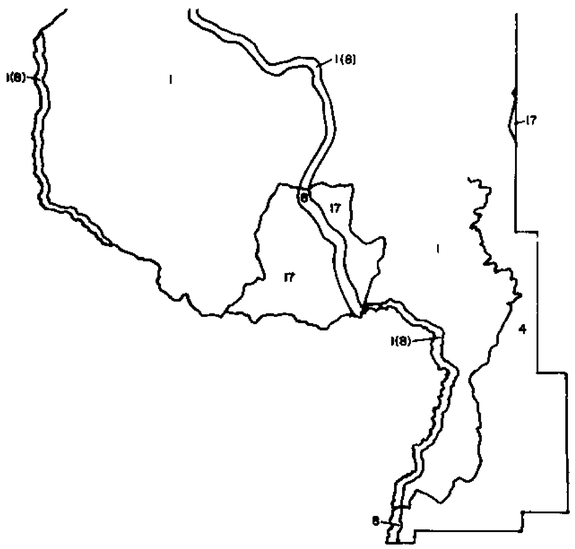


Table 14
Acreage Allocations by Management Prescription
Alternative AMB

Management Prescription	M Acres	Percent of Forest
1. Designated Wilderness	565.1	29.4
2. Proposed Wilderness	222.7	11.5
3. Mountain Sheep	32.0	1.7
4. Mule Deer	118.3	6.0
5. Research Natural Area*	11.6 (4.0)	0.6
6. Mono Basin NF Scenic Area*	40.2 (4.8)	2.1
7. Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest*	27.5	1.4
8. Wild and Scenic River*	4.3 (19.4)	0.2
9. Uneven-aged Timber Management	2.9	0.1
10. High Level Timber Management	86.7	4.5
11. Range	101.4	5.3
12. Concentrated Recreation Area	46.1	2.4
13. Alpine Ski Area, Existing and Under Study	14.6	0.8
14. Potential Alpine Ski Area	0	0
15. Developed Recreation Site	1.9	0.1
16. Dispersed Recreation	6.8	0.4
17. Semi-Primitive Recreation	589.4	30.5
18. Multiple Resource Area	58.2	3.0

*Acres with dual designation (existing or proposed wilderness and RNA, Scenic Area, etc.) are displayed in the acreage total for Prescriptions 1 or 2 are indicated in parentheses under the other applicable prescription.

Table 15
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMB

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
FACILITIES								
Administrative Sites								
-Forest Service owned (no.)	6	-	-	8	8	8	8	8
-leased (no.)	1	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Dams and Reservoirs								
-Forest Service (no.)	3	-	-	3	3	3	3	3
-State/local (no.)	4	-	-	4	4	4	4	4
-private (no.)	11	-	-	11	11	11	11	11
Roads (miles)								
Construction (tot.)	0	-	-	0	2.4	1.4	0	0
-timber	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-recreation	0	-	-	0	2.4	1.4	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	20	-	-	17	17	17	17	17
-timber	15	-	-	14	14	14	14	14
-recreation	5	-	-	3	3	3	3	3
Maintenance (tot.)	974	-	-	974	989	1000	1005	1010
Trails (miles)								
Construction total	0	-	-	20.5	20.4	10.0	0	0
-existing wilderness	0	-	-	0.7	0.7	0	0	0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	2.8	2.8	0	0	0
-concentrated rec. areas	0	-	-	6.0	6.0	0	0	0
-open NF	0	-	-	1.0	1.0	0	0	0
-OHV	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-nordic	0	-	-	10.0	10.0	10.0	0	0
Reconstruction (tot.)	10.8	-	-	37.5	37.5	56.6	70.2	70.2
-existing wilderness	9.0	-	-	12.6	12.6	22.7	25.0	25.0
-recommended wilderness	-	-	-	1.8	1.8	2.1	4.6	4.6
-concentrated rec. areas	1.8	-	-	4.2	4.2	6.6	9.0	9.0
-open NF	0	-	-	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.9	2.9
-OHV	0	-	-	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5
-nordic	0	-	-	3.2	3.2	9.2	15.2	15.2

Table 15 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMB

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
Trails (cont'd)								
Maintenance (tot.)	1236	-	-	1498	1702	1802	1802	1802
LANDS AND MINERALS								
Land acquired (acres)	60	0	0	54	270	270	150	70
Leasable minerals (total power plants)	0	-	-	1	3	5	6	6
Locatable minerals (operating plans)	67	320	408	50	52	56	57	57
PROTECTION								
Fuel Treatment (acres)								
-total	18	500	400	1521	766	412	551	1326
-fire related	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-timber related	18	-	-	19	34	35	59	84
-range related	0	-	-	290	342	342	342	1172
-wildlife related	0	-	-	1212	390	35	150	70
Expected Wildfire (acres)								
-total	747	-	-	918	990	1071	1080	1080
-intensity level 1	13	-	-	9	10	11	11	11
-intensity level 2	34	-	-	55	59	64	65	65
-intensity level 3	53	-	-	64	69	75	76	76
-intensity level 4	647	-	-	239	257	278	281	281
-intensity level 5	0	-	-	551	594	643	648	648
RANGE (M AUMs)	41.4	42.2	44.5	37.3	39.0	42.4	43.4	39.4
RECREATION USE (M RVDs)								
Developed Public	1201	3510	5100	1448	1448	1735	1832	2024
Developed Private (total)	1635			1914	2421	2885	2885	2885
Dispersed	1004	2490	3120	1189	1496	1819	2010	2264
Wilderness	540			675	716	767	818	837

Table 15 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMB

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
TIMBER								
ASQ (MMBF)	10.5	16.8	19.8	5.1	6.2	6.2	7.5	9.2
Fuelwood (M cords)	10.0	-	-	11.9	8.3	3.8	4.3	4.7
Long Term Sustained Yield (MMBF)	-	-	-	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9
Reforestation (acres)	300	614	718	96	168	173	296	421
Timber Stand Improvement (acres)	328	900	918	558	353	0	0	0
WATER								
Improvement (acres)	100	180	200	500	500	500	500	350
Quality (M acre-ft.)	1047	476	481	1052	1062	1072	1082	1088
Increased Quantity (M acre-feet)	-	-	-	1.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
WILDLIFE AND FISH								
Mule Deer (M animals total)	20.2	+20 percent		20.2	20.7	21.2	21.7	22.2
(M animals on Inyo)	12.0			12.0	12.5	13.0	13.5	14.0
Bald Eagle** (winter roosting areas)	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Peregrine Falcon** (no. of pairs)	0	-	-	2	3	4	4	4
Goshawks (pairs in suitable timber)	15	-	-	15	15	15	15	15
Nelson Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	130	-	-	140	154	154	154	154
Sierra Nevada Mountain Sheep (no. of animals)	300	-	-	350	400	500	700	1000

Table 15 (continued)
Average Annual Outputs by Decade
Alternative AMB

Resource Elements	Base Year	1980 RPA Goals		Decades (Decade 1: 1986-1995)				
	1982	1990	2030	1	2	3	4	5
WILDLIFE AND FISH (cont'd)								
Lahontan CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	1	-	-	.3	.5	.9	1.3	1.6
Paiute CT Trout* (acres of habitat)	3	-	-	1.3	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.4
Resident Trout (M pounds)	1632	+20 percent		1642	1652	1662	1672	1682
Total Wildlife/Fish User Days (M WFUDs)	391.0	-	-	394.2	399.7	405.6	415.2	424.7
-mule deer	25.2	-	-	25.2	26.2	27.3	28.3	29.4
-resident trout	340.0	-	-	342.1	344.2	346.3	348.4	350.4
-other	25.8	-	-	26.9	29.3	32.0	38.5	44.9
Derived from direct habitat improvement								
-mule deer	0.1	-	-	0.2	0.1	0	<0.1	<0.1
-resident trout	0	-	-	1.2	2.4	3.6	4.8	6.0
-other	0	-	-	0.4	0	0.4	0	0
Derived from induced habitat improvement								
-mule deer	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
-resident trout	0.1	-	-	0.9	1.8	2.7	3.6	4.4
-other	0.1	-	-	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Units of Direct Habitat Improvement								
-mule deer (M acres)	0.5	-	-	1.7	0.8	0	0.3	0.1
-resident trout (ac.)	0	0	0	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7
-other (M acres)	0	-	-	3.8	0	3.5	0	0
HUMAN RESOURCES								
Programs (enrollees)	39	14	14	39	39	39	39	39
TOTAL BUDGET (MM$)	9.9	11.1	12.2	12.6	10.3	2.6	13.0	15.1
TOTAL COST (MM$)	10.3	-	-	13.6	11.3	13.6	14.0	16.1

*Threatened, **Endangered