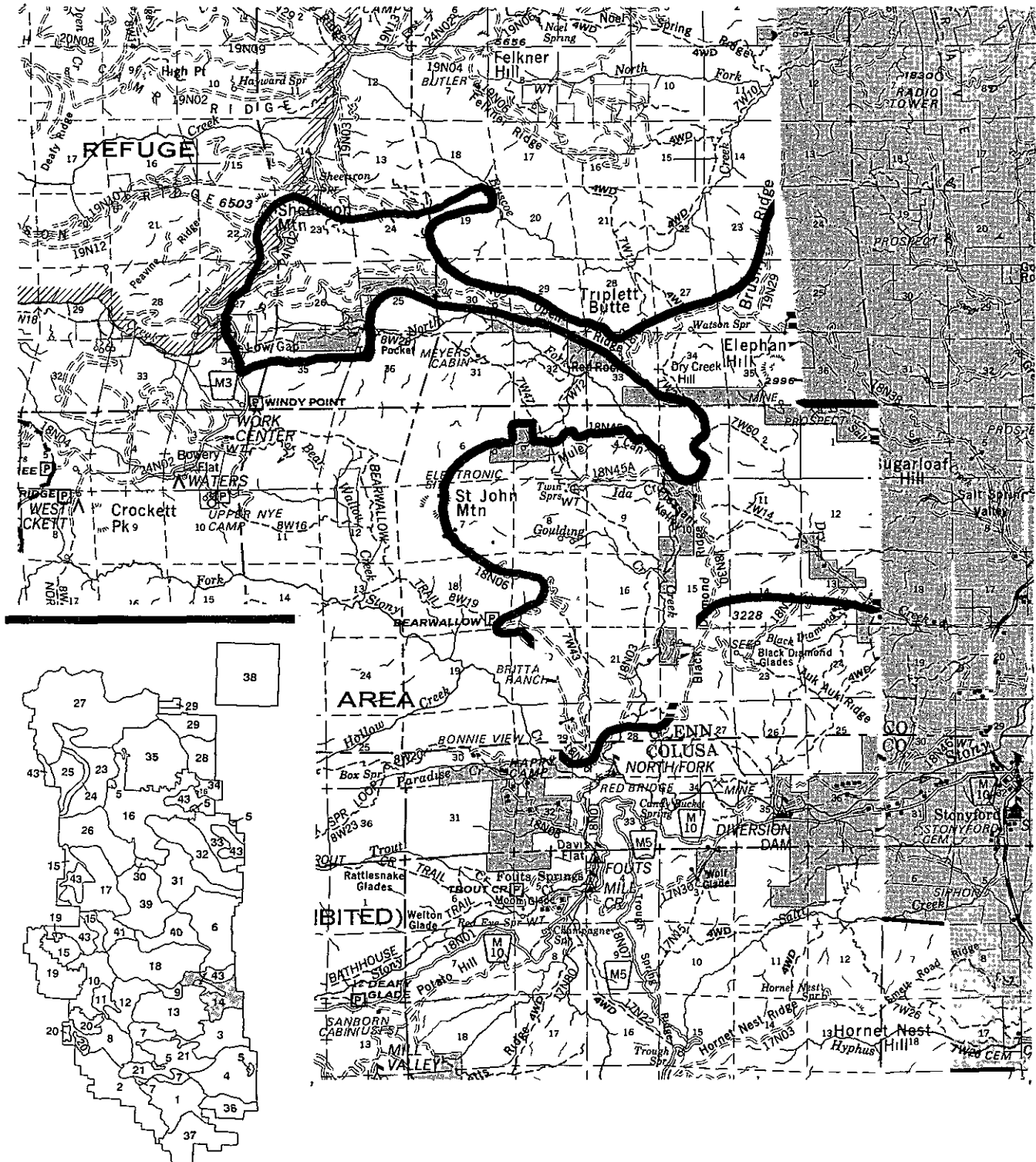


# MANAGEMENT AREA #14

## Open Ridge / Alder



## MANAGEMENT AREA #14

### OPEN RIDGE/ALDER

Total Acres 16,905

NF Acres 15,006

This management area is comprised of two non-contiguous portions. The northern portion includes Tool Cache and Noel Spring Ridges. The southern portion includes Elephant Hill and Black Diamond Ridge. Both areas lie within Glenn County.

Vegetation is diverse throughout this area. High elevation areas contain extensive brush fields intermixed with conifer stands and soils of low productivity and moderate to high erosion potential. Large grassy openings surrounded by blue and white oaks exist at the lower elevations. Black oak and mixed conifer stands border such grasslands at higher elevations. This area contains 966 acres of suitable timberland.

The Management Area supports a variety of wildlife species including northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, goshawk, California quail, deer, wild turkey, and California thrasher. Bald eagle foraging habitat and a potential peregrine falcon nesting site are located within this management area.

The Sensitive plants Antirrhinum subcordatum, Hesperolinon drymaroides, and Epilobium nivium grow in this area, along with the special interest species Helianthus exilis.

This area poses high fire hazards due to the presence of continuous flashy fuels in the chaparral and grass vegetative types. Timber stands at higher elevations have light to moderate fuel loadings of logging slash.

Limited OHV use occurs in the area, and few OHV conflicts arise because use is light and other uses are well-dispersed. Deer hunting during the late season is a popular recreation use of the area. A take-off point for hang gliders is located on Tool Cache Ridge, but necessary landing sites lie within private ownerships where permission to enter is limited.

About 40% of all forested lands are accessed by the current transportation system which provides for adequate public and administrative access to this management area. Water from the area is used for irrigation via East Park and Stony Gorge reservoirs. This area is in the Upper Stony Creek Watershed Improvement Project (PL 566).

St. John mountain is used as a communications transmission site.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #14

### MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis . . . . .	2,896
Chaparral Management . . . . .	4,852
Minimal Management . . . . .	6,292
Timber Modified . . . . .	966

#### Management Direction

Analyze the need for seasonal closure of roads within deer key winter range in the Open Ridge area from fall through spring to limit vehicular harassment of deer.

Limit installation of additional facilities at the St. John electronics site to within existing site boundaries. Improvement of access to the site must be accomplished by the permittees, and must be confined to within the existing alignment and termini.

Emphasize completion of Watershed Improvement Needs projects.

Continue treating logging slash to reduce fire hazards.

#### Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Potential nest site
Bald Eagle	Potential foraging habitat
Deer	Portions of Britton Ranch and Elephant Hill key winter ranges Portions of Sheetroon and St John Mountain key summer ranges

## MANAGEMENT AREA #14

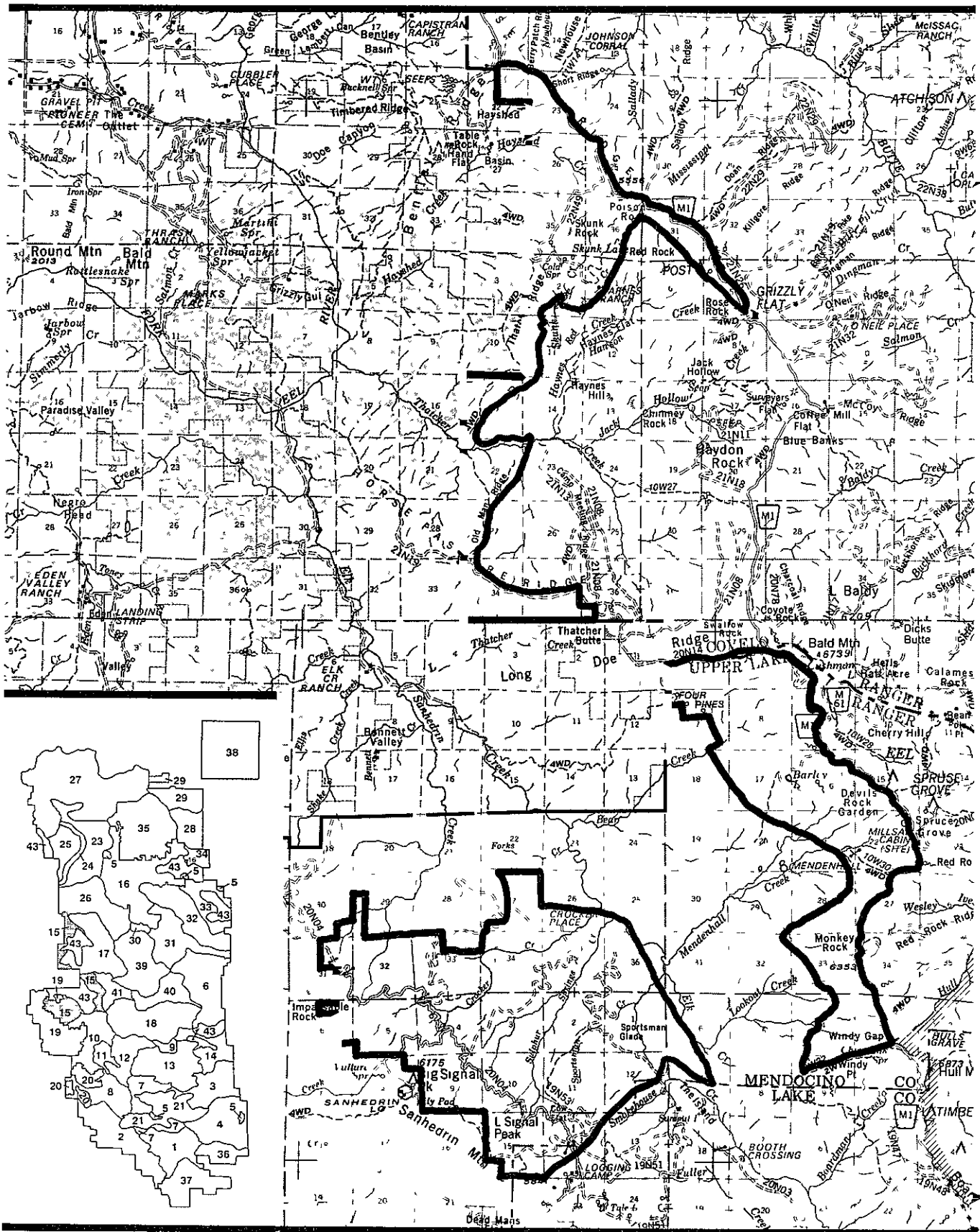
### Diversity Seral Stage Goals\*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	61
Chaparral	388
Mixed Conifer	170

\* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

# MANAGEMENT AREA # 15

Yuki



## MANAGEMENT AREA #15

### YUKI

Total Acres 24,132

NF Acres 13,809

The Yuki Management Area comprises three separate parcels of land within Hayshed, Thatcher, and Elk Creek watersheds. The northern-most parcel includes Skunk Rock and Horse Pasture Ridge. The southernmost parcel includes that area from Crocker Place to the Signal Peaks. The central parcel includes features such as Barley Lake, Devil's Rock, and Monkey Rock. This management area is entirely within Mendocino County with the exception of very small parcels in Lake County near Little Signal Peak.

Elevations range from 1,480 feet where Elk Creek crosses the Forest boundary to 6,350 feet at Monkey Rock. Terrain is steep and mountainous. Soils tend to be shallow, highly erodible, and/or unstable. Vegetation consists primarily of hardwoods, chaparral, and glades. There are mixed conifer and true fir stands scattered throughout the area depending on elevation, soil, and exposure. This management area contains 2,076 acres of suitable timberland.

This Management Area contains nesting habitat for goshawk in the northern portion and dispersal habitat in the two southern portions. The northern portion contains denning habitat for marten and fisher, and the southern portions contain dispersal habitat for marten and fisher. There is potential foraging habitat for bald eagle along Elk Creek. There is potential habitat for tule elk in the northern portion and summer habitat in the two southern portions. The Yuki Management Area also contains key summer and winter habitat for deer. The area also contains nesting and dispersal habitat for northern spotted owl.

The Thatcher watershed is a designated key watershed. Thatcher and Elk Creeks contain important runs of winter-run steelhead and, in some years, chinook. The habitat has improved in the last several years and is capable of supporting much larger runs of fish than currently occupy the area. The lower reaches of Crocker and Sulphur Springs Creeks, tributaries to Elk Creek, also provide important anadromous fish habitat. Although other tributaries of Elk and Thatcher have low flows of less than 0.5 cubic feet per second and provide only a small amount of anadromous habitat during the summer, they are important spawning areas and do provide cold water in the summer. Elk Creek and its tributaries contain good to excellent rainbow trout populations. Access is difficult and the fishing pressure is very light.

The central portion of this management area contains populations of the sensitive plant Lewisia stebbinsii, and there may be populations of Lupinus antoninus in the central portion as well.

Fire occurrence is moderate in this area and most fire starts are lightning caused. There are no records of large fires within the central portion during the last 30 years, however, the Mendenhall fire burned the majority of the southern portion in 1987. The fire burned intensely, killing almost all of the trees in numerous drainages. Fire-killed timber was salvage logged, and several thousand acres were planted with conifer seedlings. Natural regeneration of grass, brush, and knobcone pine are causing severe competition for small conifer seedlings. This regrowth could also provide sufficient fuel to allow future wildfires to sweep through the plantations.

Access to most of this area is poor, and public access within the southern portion is very limited due to a limited internal road system and no public easements across much of the private land. Recreation use is mainly in the form of hunting and dispersed camping during the hunting season.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #15

The area contains a few scattered parcels of private land in the central portion. Much of the private land within the area is concentrated in one large parcel in the southern portion, which was also salvage logged following the Mendenhall fire. The northern portion of this management area is particularly sensitive in terms of the presence, number, and vulnerability of historic and prehistoric heritage resources.

The Yuki Management Area was included in a 1994 proposal from the California Wilderness Coalition to establish the Yuki Wilderness. Management in this area, in conjunction with management areas 17, 19, and 43, is designed to maintain future options for Wilderness designation while allowing vegetation manipulation projects for fuels and wildlife habitat management and motorized recreation on existing roads and trails.

### MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis . . . . .	3,767
Chaparral Management . . . . .	1,544
Minimal Management . . . . .	6,122
Late Successional Reserve * . . . . .	300
Timber Modified . . . . .	2,076

\* Estimated Unmapped LSRs

#### Management Direction

Permit timber harvesting only within previously harvested areas and small patches (less than 10 acres) interspersed with previously harvested areas. Hazard tree felling and removal along open system roads is excluded from this restriction.

Do not permit new road or OHV trail construction.

Continue re-vegetation efforts on barren areas along major ridges and in riparian reserves within this management area.

Emphasize gully stabilization work near Etsel Ridge.

Inventory non-system roads and trails. Evaluate suitability of these roads and trails for addition to the transportation system. Close, obliterate, or repair those that are causing unacceptable resource damage.

Continue fuels management efforts along Thatcher, Horse Pasture, and Old Man Ridge to reduce the continuity of the fuels and create a mosaic of seral stages.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #15

Emphasize fuels treatment in areas adjacent to and within plantations as a means to provide protection for plantations from wildfire

Continue prescribed burning of chaparral and brewer oak within key deer winter and summer range to improve deer forage. Manage oaks and understory browse species to increase preferred deer browse in key summer range.

Within the central portion, emphasize protection of rehabilitated areas, key fawning areas, and riparian habitat from livestock grazing. Protect wet meadows and glades for deer fawning and elk forage.

Do not allow grazing in the southern portion of this management area

Give low priority to acquiring public access within the southern portion of this management area because of user conflicts on private land, and to avoid the expense of maintaining many miles of road crossing private land to access relatively small blocks of National Forest land.

Coordinate management activities within the northern portion of this management area to compliment proposed activities in the western portion of the Thatcher Backcountry Area

### Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat Dispersal habitat
Tule Elk	Summer habitat
Deer	Portions of Etsel Ridge, Bald Mtn , Hull Mtn , and Sanhedrin key summer ranges Portions of Old Man Ridge, Elk Creek, and Gravelly Valley key winter ranges
Winter-run Steelhead	Spawning and rearing habitat

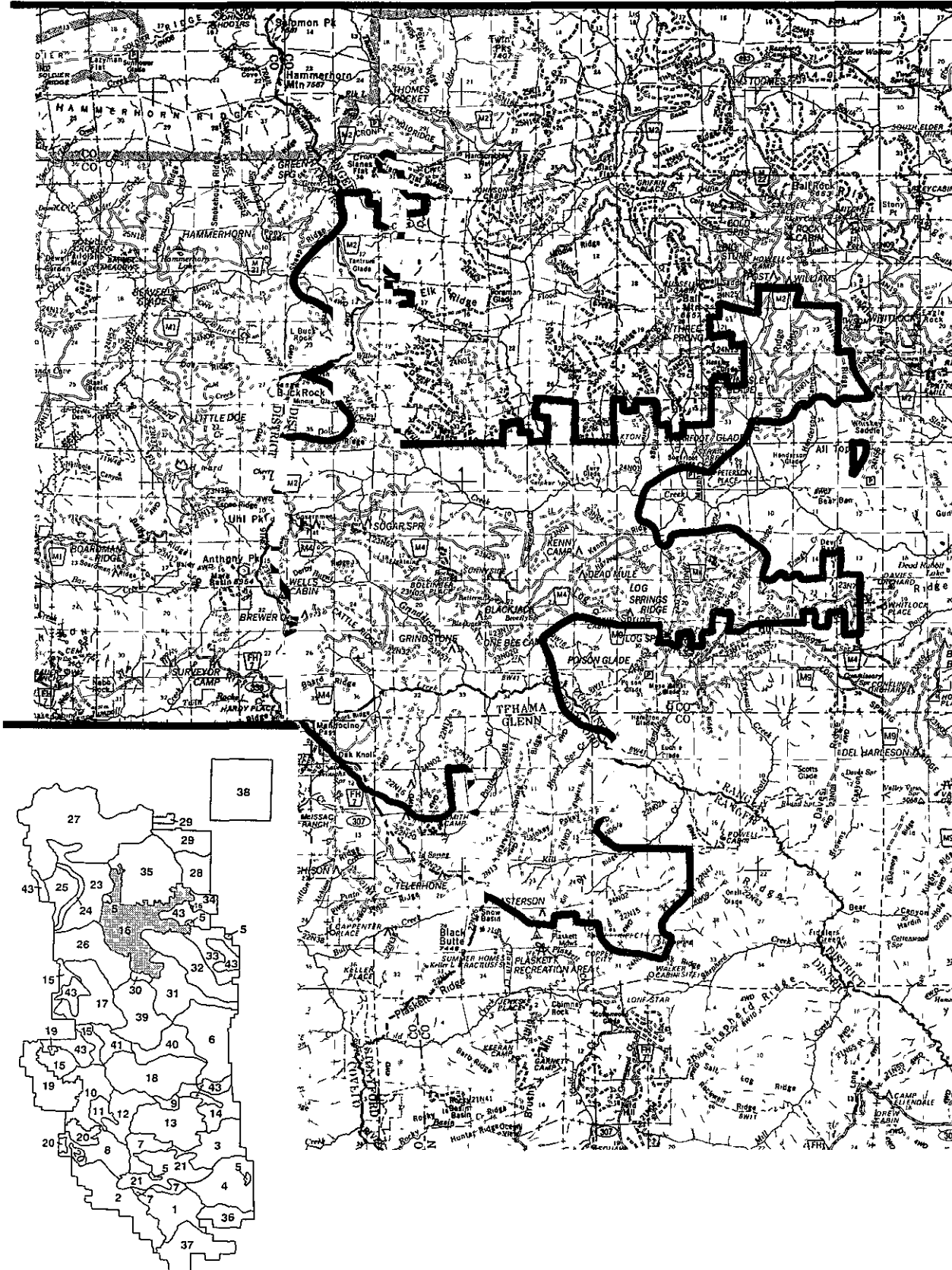
### Diversity Seral Stage Goals\*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	94
Chaparral	124
Mixed Conifer	336

\* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

# MANAGEMENT AREA # 16

## Buttermilk Springs



## MANAGEMENT AREA #16

### BUTTERMILK SPRINGS

Total Acres 60,556

NF Acres 59,585

This management area extends west to the Covelo/Corning district divide, south to Plaskett Meadows, east to Thatham Ridge and the boundaries of Thomes Creek Backcountry Area (Management Area #43). This area lies within the Corning, Covelo, and Stonyford Ranger Districts, and Tehama, Glenn, and Mendocino counties.

Terrain is gentle along the Covelo/Corning divide, as well as along Log Spring Ridge. Terrain is steeper next to many of the larger streams, including Thomes Creek and Grindstone Creek. Elevations range from 2,200 to 6,650 feet. Vegetation is generally mixed conifer forest, although oaks and brushlands abound below 4,000 feet. True firs are found above 5,000 feet and pines at mid and lower elevations on south aspects. Along the lower fringes of the conifer zone, hardwood understories are common. Brush and hardwoods are also common in stands where partial cutting has been done. Annual precipitation is 30-60 inches, with most of that falling as snow above 5,500 feet. Lower elevation watersheds are heavily vegetated but contain unstable, steep-walled channels along major streams. Soils on southern aspects are rocky, shallow, of moderate to low fertility, and underlain by fractured bedrock. Soils are deep on northern aspects along Log Spring Ridge, and from Lake Ridge to Flowers Ridge on the Corning/Covelo divide. Inner gorges on Thomes Creek and Grindstone Creek are characterized by slides and slumps, especially in the headwaters area of Grindstone Creek.

The Buttermilk Springs Management Area is entirely within LSR RC309, critical habitat for the northern spotted owl, and it contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting/denning habitat for the northern spotted owl, goshawk, marten, and fisher. Black bear, wild turkey, and deer are also found here. The numerous glades on the eastern portion of this area provide habitat for large numbers of game and non-game species. Thomes Creek and Willow Creek are important fisheries which provide potential foraging habitat for bald eagles. A small portion in the northwest corner of this management area is within the Middle Fork of the Eel River key watershed. Black-tailed deer use the upper elevations of this management area as summer range. The mid and lower elevations provide transition range and major migration routes between summer and winter range, and much of the lower elevations in the east are used as winter range. The summer range is limited in forage and fawning cover due to inadequate regeneration of important browse species such as bitter cherry and mountain white thorn. Suitable habitat for elk is also available within this area.

No sensitive plant species are known to occur within this management area, but potential habitat exists for Epilobium nivium, Lewisia stebbinsii, Linanthus harknessii ssp. condensatus, and Raillardella scabrida. Paleontological resources occur near Lake Ridge.

Fire occurrence is moderate and generally lightning-caused. Moderate to heavy logging slash and chaparral stands in Grindstone canyon pose hazards for potentially catastrophic wildfires. In 1990 the Recer fire burned 3,000 acres, and in 1994 the Sugarfoot fire burned 1,735 acres in this area.

The area receives substantial recreational use from spring through fall. Small dispersed camps exist throughout the area, and there are popular developed recreation sites at Kingsley Glade, Sugarfoot, Wells Cabin, and Masterson. Recreational horse holding facilities exist at Kingsley and Masterson. Opportunities exist for an improved foot/horse trail system between Kingsley Glade and Sugarfoot; for development of a recreation lake at Sugarfoot Glade; and for improvements in the foot/horse trail system for better fishing access to Grindstone, Thomes, and Willow Creeks. Extensive unauthorized OHV use has caused resource damage in the glades adjacent to Sugarfoot camp.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #16

About 80% of the timberland is accessed by the existing road system. Intensive timber harvest in portions of the management area has resulted in a fragmented forest environment. Log Springs Station is a Forest Service administrative site used as a work center and strategically located as a base for fire engines covering the area between the district boundary on the west, Thomes Creek on the north, Grindstone Creek on the south, and the Forest boundary on the east. All water rights are adjudicated in the Stony Creek Basin, which includes Grindstone Creek. Grindstone Creek provides inflow to Stony Creek, Black Butte Reservoir, and the Orland Water Users District. Thomes Creek is the main municipal water source for Paskenta and a primary irrigation source for Paskenta and beyond.

Four grazing allotments are currently active within this management area: West Log Springs, Doe Peak, Peterson, and Riley Ridge. Problems with livestock trespass at Plaskett Meadows, Straight Arrow Camp, Sugarfoot camp, Kingsley, Three Prong Valley, and along on the Corning/Covelo divide from Mendocino Pass to Doll Ridge have been dramatically reduced as a result of changes in grazing management, including adjustment of the timing and patterns of grazing, increased control of livestock distribution, and reduced stocking rates. Historic livestock grazing created barren areas from Anthony Peak to Buck Rock.

A progeny test site managed by the North Zone Tree Improvement Unit is located in this management area.

### MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Late Successional Reserve . . . . .	. . . . 59,585

#### Management Direction

Management emphasis in this area is on protecting and enhancing conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

All activities within this management area are to be implemented in accordance with the LSR management prescription.

Complete suitability analysis for the lower portion of Thomes Creek for possible inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System within two years of Forest Plan approval. If found suitable, complete Study Reports/Legislative Environmental Impact Statements and make final recommendation decisions within three years of Plan approval.

Provide protection to the outstandingly remarkable values found along Thomes Creek pending determination of the suitability of Thomes Creek for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Complete a technical and administrative feasibility study of the recreational lake development at Sugarfoot Glade before the end of the first decade.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #16

Establish site plans and recommend development levels for dispersed recreation sites.

Analyze and evaluate options for developing foot and horse trails along the high divide between Covelo and Corning ranger districts, tying the Kingsley Glade and Sugarfoot camps together, and improving fishing access to Grindstone, Thomes, and Willow Creeks.

Implement and enforce OHV closure in the glades adjacent to Sugarfoot camp

Develop road management objectives for maintenance and closure devices that are compatible with the wildlife management objectives.

Pursue land exchange using Regional exchange base or Corning Ranger District's exchange base.

Manage vegetation and protect glades to improve deer browse and fawning cover in key summer range.

Continue high elevation barren area restoration in the Summit area, and complete Watershed Improvement Needs in this area

Continue to create diverse seral stages within the chaparral vegetation type to provide for wildlife forage, fuels management, livestock forage, and watershed values.

Emphasize the use of native species for barren area and fire area rehabilitation.

Treat excessive fuel loading in the headwaters of Grindstone Creek and the Doll Ridge area to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire within the LSR

Continue to manage livestock grazing to minimize problems of drift and trespass, maintain forage availability for wildlife, and protect water quality.

Coordinate management activities near the progeny test site with the North Zone Tree Improvement Unit.

### Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Late Successional Reserve Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat
Bald eagle	Potential foraging habitat
Elk	Potential reintroduction site
Deer	Portions of Wells Cabin/Plaskett key summer range Portions of North Grindstone and Thomes Creek key winter ranges

## MANAGEMENT AREA #16

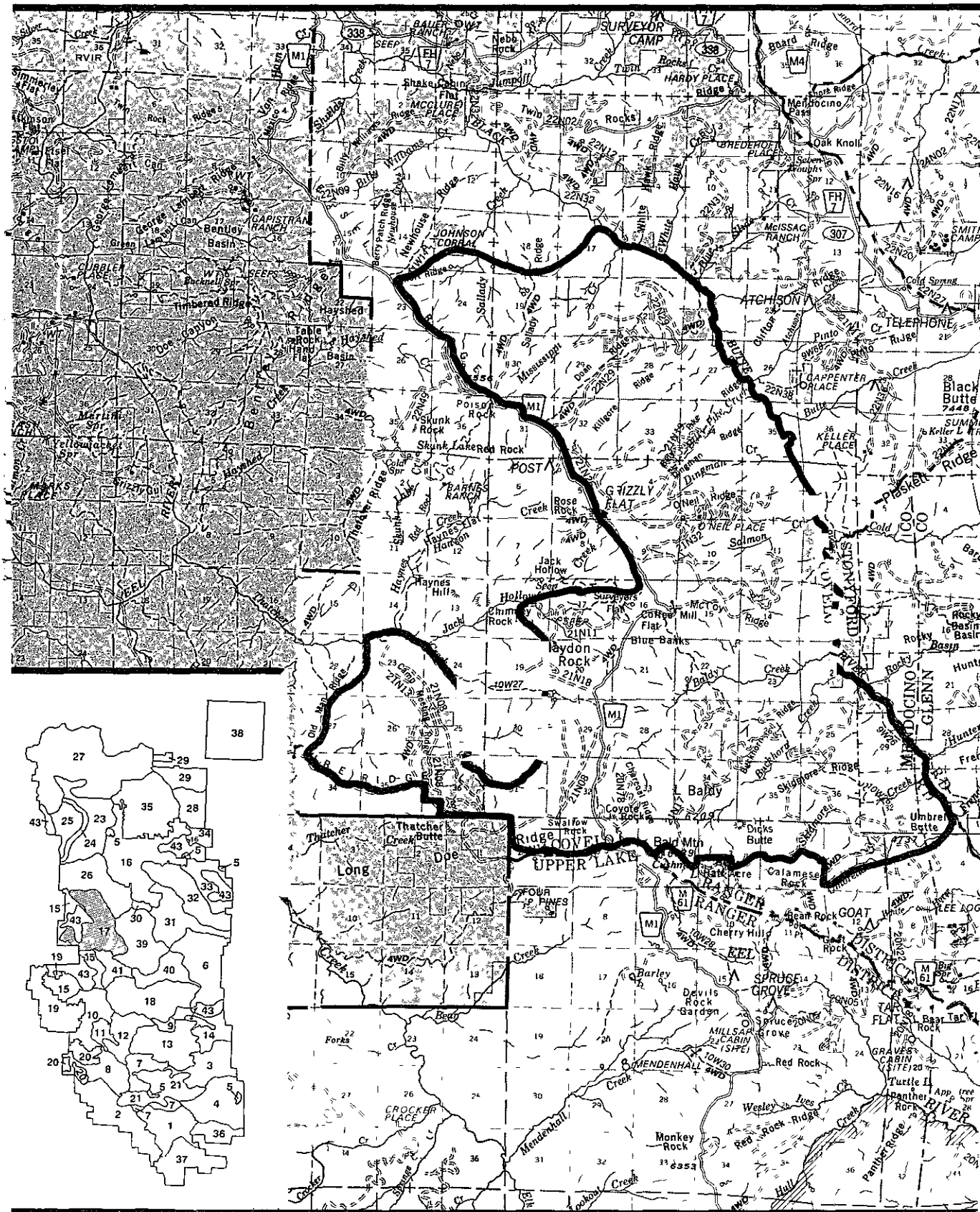
### Diversity Seral Stage Goals\*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	173
Chaparral	195
Mixed Conifer	2,570

\* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA #16

# Grizzly



## MANAGEMENT AREA #17

### GRIZZLY

Total Acres 34,585

NF Acres 32,920

The Grizzly Management Area is bounded by the Forest boundary to the west and the Covelo/Upper Lake district boundary to the south. The eastern boundary follows the Black Butte River. This management area lies entirely within Mendocino County.

Elevations range from 2,000 feet in Thatcher Creek to 6,740 feet at Bald Mountain. Slopes range from gentle on ridgetops to steep in draws. The management area is drained by Black Butte River and Thatcher Creek. Soils are highly erodible on high elevation barren areas and slopes immediately above major drainages. In the southwestern portion many higher elevation areas have been eroded to parent material. Risk of landslides is moderate overall but high to extreme in some of the steeper canyons. Vegetation varies with elevation, soil, slope, and exposure, and it is predominantly mixed conifer, chaparral, and hardwood savannah. Some pure stands of white fir exist at the higher elevations.

The Grizzly Management Area is within LSR RC310 and critical habitat for the northern spotted owl. It contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting/denning habitat for the northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. A windstorm in 1988 damaged portions of the suitable northern spotted owl habitat resulting in areas of dead and damaged trees. Other wildlife populations in the area consist of prairie falcon, badger, black bear, golden eagle, blue grouse, and mountain and California quail. Peregrine falcon have recently been located in the vicinity of Calamere Rock. Bald eagles forage along Black Butte River. Suitable habitat for elk is located in the area. This area provides important summer/winter range for black-tailed deer. This management area is entirely within the Black Butte River and Thatcher Creek key watersheds. The Black Butte River contains important salmon and steelhead runs, and Thatcher Creek supports a resident trout fishery. The small tributaries on the northern end of the management area are important cold water sources for Black Butte River, and they also contain steelhead juveniles near their confluence with Black Butte River.

Lewisia stebbinsii is the only sensitive plant known to occur within this management area. Other species which grow here and may be of special interest include Asclepias solanoana, Eriogonum strictum var. greenei and Orobancha fasciculata var. franciscana. Potential habitat for Eriogonum nervulosum exists within this management area.

Other uses of this area include recreation and forage production for livestock. Recreation use is mainly in the form of hunting and dispersed camping during the hunting season. In addition, this has been a primary public Christmas Tree cutting area.

A Forest Service administrative site is located at Grizzly Flat Station. The northern half of this management area is particularly sensitive in terms of the presence, number, and vulnerability of historic and prehistoric heritage resources.

**MANAGEMENT AREA #17**  
**MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION**

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Late Successional Reserve . . . . .	32,920

Management Direction

Management emphasis in this area is on protecting and enhancing conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species including the northern spotted owl

All activities in this area are to be implemented in accordance with the Late Successional Reserve management prescription

Evaluate effects of continuing to utilize the management area for Christmas tree cutting on northern spotted owl habitat including consulting/conferencing as appropriate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Complete suitability analysis for the Black Butte River for possible inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System within two years of Forest Plan approval. If found suitable, complete Study Reports/Legislative Environmental Impact Statements and make final recommendation decisions within three years of Plan approval.

Provide protection to the outstandingly remarkable values found along the Black Butte River pending determination of the suitability of the Black Butte River for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Coordinate management activities within this management area to compliment proposed activities in the western portion of the Thatcher Backcountry Area.

Develop road management objectives for maintenance and closure devices that are compatible with wildlife management objectives.

Prohibit road construction within the portions of Thatcher and Black Butte watersheds included in the RARE II analysis (inventoried roadless areas).

Continue to improve deer forage on key summer range.

Continue fuels management efforts along Horse Pasture and Old Man Ridge to reduce the continuity of the fuels and create a mosaic of seral stages.

Continue re-vegetation efforts on barren areas along major ridges within this management area. Emphasize gully stabilization on the west side of the management area.

Pursue land exchange using Regional exchange base or Corning Ranger District's exchange base.

Monitor the Black Butte River to locate and remove barriers to anadromous fish migration.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #17

### Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Late Successional Reserve Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Potential nest sites
Deer	Portions of Etsel Ridge and Bald Mountain key summer ranges Portions of Old Man Ridge and Black Butte River key winter ranges
Winter-run Steelhead	Spawning and rearing habitat
Fall-run Chinook	Spawning and rearing habitat

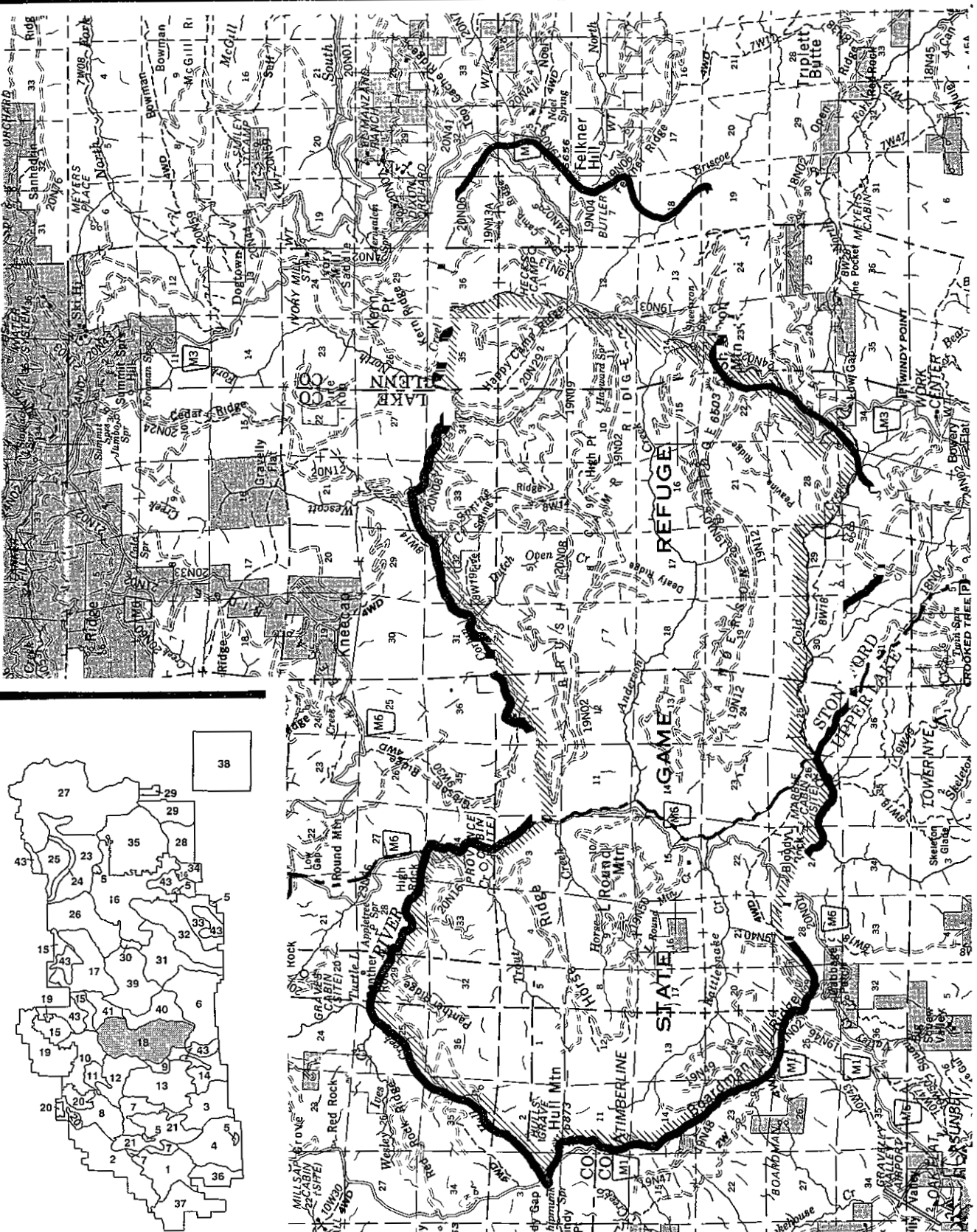
### Diversity Seral Stage Goals\*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	145
Chaparral	117
Mixed Conifer	1,339

\* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

# MANAGEMENT AREA #18

## Refuge



## MANAGEMENT AREA #18

### REFUGE

Total Acres 43,975  
NF Acres 43,901

The Refuge Management Area is generally bordered on the south by Cold Creek and the Eel River, and its northern boundary follows the Eel River and Corbin Creek (see map). This management area includes two dominant ridges, Anderson Ridge and Brush Camp Ridge. This area lies primarily in Lake County with minor portions in Glenn and Mendocino counties.

This management area is entirely within LSR RC311, and it is almost entirely within critical habitat for the northern spotted owl, and it contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting/denning habitat for the northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. State Game Refuge IIA is encompassed by this management area. The purpose of the refuge is to provide an area that is closed to hunting and that will maintain the genetic quality of the deer herds in the area. The upper Main Eel and its tributaries contain fair to excellent rainbow trout populations. The access is difficult and the fishing pressure is generally very light.

The sensitive plants Epilobium nivium, Lupinus antoninus and Raillardella scabrida occur within this management area. Paleontological resources exist near Hull Creek. Two rust-resistant sugar pine trees have been identified within this management area.

This area poses moderate fire hazards. Continuous fields of chaparral exist on the southwestern slopes of Anderson and Brush Camp Ridges. Timbered areas have light to moderate fuel loading of logging slash. The western portion of this area was burned in the 1987 Mendenhall fire and was subsequently logged and replanted. Fuel loading in the burned areas is heavy.

Grazing in this management area is impacting springs and seeps near the top of Anderson and Brush Camp ridges. A progeny test site managed by the North Zone Tree Improvement Unit is located on Anderson Ridge.

Cold Creek provides water to the Eel River, which provides part of the total runoff into Lake Pillsbury. Water from this area is used for power generation, irrigation, and domestic purposes.

### MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Late Successional Reserve . . . . .	43,901

## MANAGEMENT AREA #18

### Management Direction

Management emphasis in this area is on protecting and enhancing conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

All activities within this area are to be implemented in accordance with the LSR management prescription

Where applicable to Forest Service lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Analyze existing OHV trail system within the management area, and eliminate or close OHV trails which have been shown to adversely affect the northern spotted owl or goshawk. Avoid constructing new OHV trails in suitable or potentially suitable northern spotted owl or goshawk habitat. Do not permit organized OHV events within 1/2 mile of northern spotted owl activity centers from February 1 thru July 31 and within 200 feet of northern spotted owl activity centers for the remainder of the year.

Develop road management objectives for maintenance and closure devices that are compatible with wildlife management objectives.

Manage livestock use to protect springs and seeps near ridgetops.

Develop and implement a plantation protection plan for the plantations resulting from the Mendenhall fire

Protect and utilize known rust-resistant sugar pine trees to provide seed for rust-resistant seedlings.

Continue treatment of existing concentrations of logging slash to reduce fire hazards.

Coordinate management activities near the progeny test site with the North Zone Tree Improvement Unit.

### Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Late Successional Reserve Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Potential nest site
Deer	Portions of Briscoe Creek and Blood Rock/ Skeleton Glade key winter ranges Portions of Sheetiron and Hull Mountain key summer ranges

## MANAGEMENT AREA #18

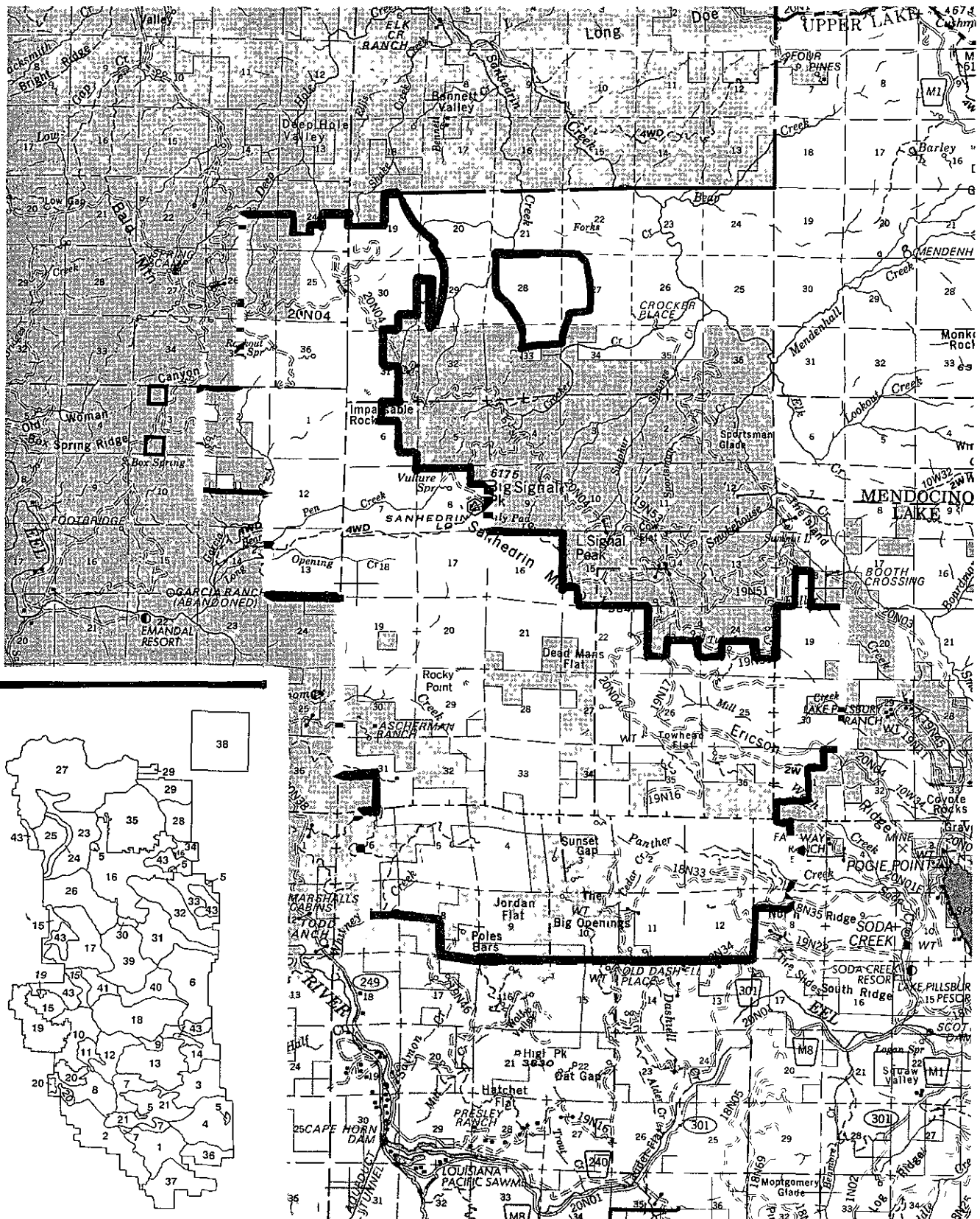
### Diversity Seral Stage Goals\*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	85
Chaparral	164
Mixed Conifer	1,923

\* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

# MANAGEMENT AREA #19

## Sanhedrin



## MANAGEMENT AREA #19

### SANHEDRIN

Total Acres 31,879  
NF Acres 24,178

Sanhedrin Management Area is bounded on the northwest, west, and south by the Forest boundary. Its northern boundary is formed primarily by private land. A small, noncontiguous portion of the management area lies between Sanhedrin and Crocker Creeks, three miles north of Big Signal Peak. The western 2/3 of the area is in Mendocino County, and the eastern third lies within Lake County.

Terrain is moderately steep and rugged. Elevations range from 6,175 feet at Big Signal peak to 1,900 feet at Whitney Creek. The major creeks in the area drain westward to the Eel River. Soils are moderately to highly erodible, and an unstable fault zone transects the Rocky Point-Ascherman Ranch area. Streamside Zones, colluvial soils, and glades are particularly unstable. Timber stands consist primarily of mixed conifer. Drier slopes and poorly formed soils support brush and hardwoods. Several large glades are present within the management area.

The Sanhedrin Management Area is entirely within LSR RC315, and almost entirely within critical habitat for the northern spotted owl. It contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting/denning habitat for the northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. Reproduction of spotted owl and goshawk has been documented in remnant patches of mature timber which survived the Mendenhall fire of 1987. Both Whitney and Thomas Creeks support steelhead and resident trout. While anadromous fish spawn and rear in Panther Creek, there may be some barriers to fish passage.

The sensitive plant species Raillardella scabrida is known to occur within this area. Populations of Orobanche valida ssp. howellii and Pityopus californicus have been reported and are considered special interest species. This management area may contain habitat suitable for Epilobium nivium and Lupinus antoninus.

Fuel loading is high due to a lack of past fuel treatment, logging on private lands, and the contiguous nature of brush and timber stands. The 1987 Mendenhall fire burned the northwestern third of this management area. Fire intensity varied, and the fire killed hardwoods and conifers on significant portions of the area. Salvage logging is complete and reforestation of suitable timberlands is under way. Natural vegetation will compete strongly with conifer seedlings, and an aggressive release program will be necessary to insure seedling survival. In 1987, 40 acres of National Forest land and 4,000 acres of adjacent private land burned in the Lauder fire in the extreme southern portion of this management area. The National Forest land has been grass seeded, salvaged logged, and reforested where necessary.

The eastern part of this area accommodates hunting, hiking, and some dispersed camping use. Only a small amount of recreation use occurs in the western part, due to a lack of access. Private lands in the southern part of the area consist of small parcels held by individual owners. Some landowners do not permit Forest Service employees or the public to cross their land for any reason.

A lookout and an electronic site are located on Sanhedrin Mountain. Portions of two grazing allotments lie within the management area.

**MANAGEMENT AREA #19**  
**MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION**

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Late Successional Reserve . . . . .	24,178

**Management Direction**

Management emphasis in this area is on protecting and enhancing conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

All activities within this management area are to be implemented in accordance with the LSR management prescription.

Coordinate management activities within this management area to compliment proposed activities in the western portion of the Elk Creek Backcountry Area.

Emphasize fuels treatment in areas adjacent to and within plantations as a means of protecting future northern spotted owl and goshawk nesting habitat from wildfire.

Analyze existing OHV trail system within the management area, and eliminate or close OHV trails which have been shown to adversely affect the northern spotted owl or goshawk. Avoid constructing new OHV trails in suitable or potentially suitable northern spotted owl or goshawk habitat. Do not permit organized OHV events within 1/2 mile of northern spotted owl activity centers from February 1 thru July 31 and within 200 feet of northern spotted owl activity centers for the remainder of the year.

Develop road management objectives for maintenance and closure devices that are compatible with wildlife management objectives.

Where applicable to National Forest lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Minimize investment in right-of-way acquisition and recreation developments. Direct public use to other areas which are better suited to such use.

Pursue acquisition of Dead Man's Flat, and consider lands south of the Asherman Ranch for exchange base

Maintain fish passage on Panther Creek.

## MANAGEMENT AREA #19

### Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Late Successional Reserve Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat
Deer	Portions of Elk Creek and Gravelly Valley key winter ranges Entire Garcia key winter range Portions of Sanhedrin key summer range
Tule Elk	Fall/Winter habitat
Winter-run Steelhead	Spawning and rearing habitat

### Diversity Seral Stage Goals\*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	171
Chaparral	44
Mixed Conifer	975

\* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.