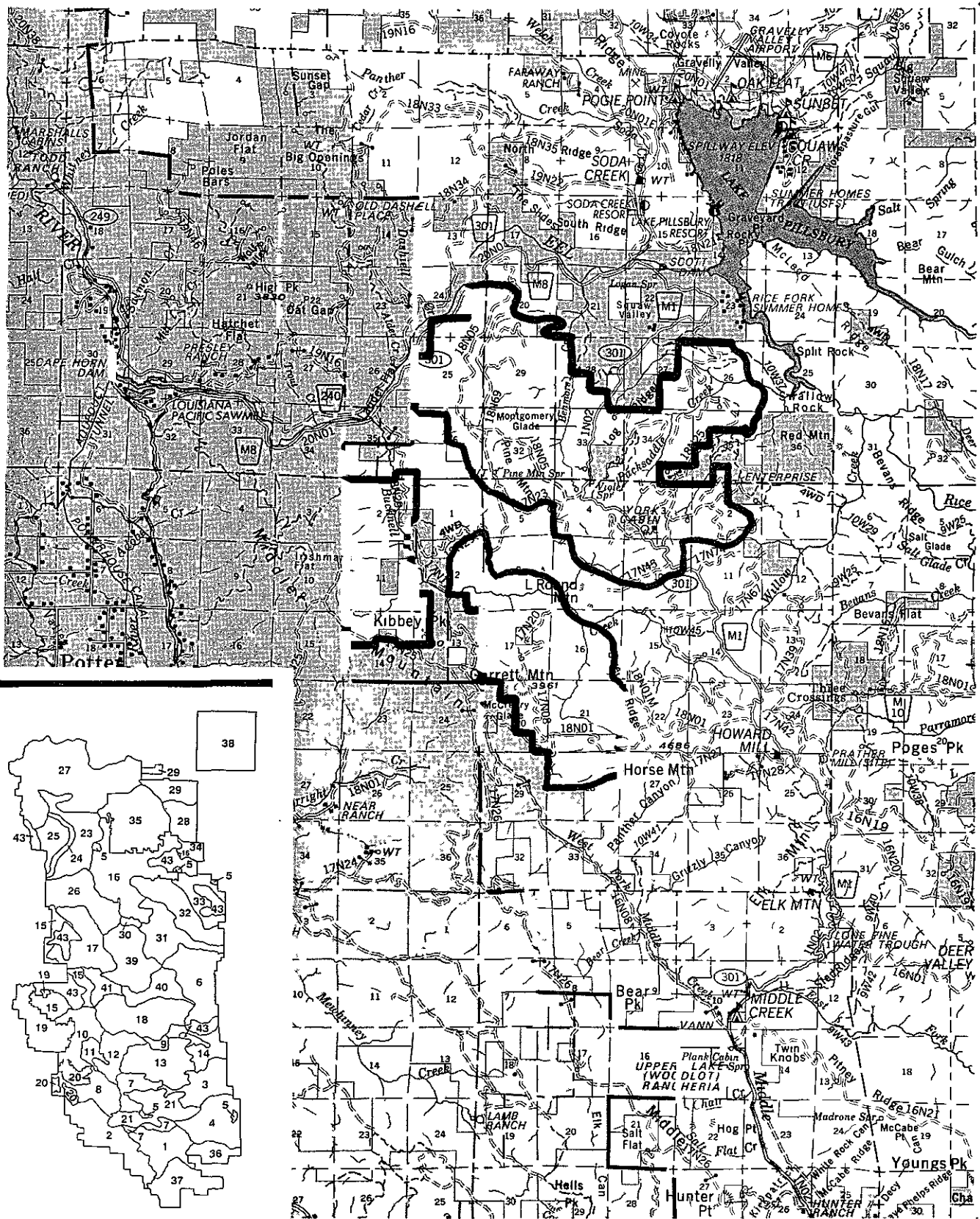


MANAGEMENT AREA #20

Pine Mountain



MANAGEMENT AREA #20

PINE MOUNTAIN

Total Acres 11,928

NF Acres 11,394

The Pine Mountain Management Area is comprised of three noncontiguous areas: Packsaddle Creek/Montgomery Glade, Garrett Mountain, and Kibbey Peak. The western boundary of the Kibbey Peak portion lies along the Forest boundary, within Mendocino County. The Garrett Mountain and Packsaddle Creek/Montgomery Glade portions are in Lake County.

Elevations within the management area range from 1,800 feet in the lower reaches of Bucknell Creek to nearly 4,000 feet at Garrett Mountain. Vegetation is predominantly mixed conifer. Oak stands are also present, and chaparral species occupy southern slopes. Erosion potential is moderate to severe, with potential for landslides along streams. Packsaddle Creek flows into the Rice Fork arm of Lake Pillsbury. Benmore Creek flows directly into the Eel River below Scott Dam. Bucknell Creek is the primary drainage for both the Garrett Mountain and Kibbey Peak areas and also flows into the Eel River below Lake Pillsbury.

The Pine Mountain Management Area is entirely within LSR RC12, it contains critical habitat for the northern spotted owl, and it contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting habitat for the northern spotted owl and goshawk. The area also contains foraging habitat for bald eagle. Benmore and Bucknell Creeks are used by anadromous fish, and Bucknell Creek is particularly important for steelhead spawning and rearing.

No sensitive plants have been found within this area to date. One species which does grow here and may be of special interest is Hesperolinon adenophyllum. A rust-resistant sugar pine has been identified within this area.

Fuel loading in the area is high. Fire occurrence in the Packsaddle Creek/Montgomery Glade area is moderate to high. Fire occurrence in the other two areas is low to moderate. Numerous plantations exist in the Packsaddle Creek/Montgomery Glade area and the Garrett Mountain area.

The Packsaddle Creek/Montgomery Glade area experiences some OHV use and other recreational use in the form of hunting, hiking, fishing, and dispersed camping. Public access is restricted within the majority of the Garrett Mountain area and public use is light. Adjacent landowners make some use of the area for hiking and hunting. No public access currently exists into the Kibbey Peak area, which is almost completely surrounded by private land. Adjacent landowners and their guests make limited use of this area for hunting and hiking.

Grazing is currently permitted within the Packsaddle Creek/Montgomery Glade area and the Garrett Mountain area.

MANAGEMENT AREA #20
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

| <u>Management Prescription</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Late Successional Reserve | 11,394 |

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.

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 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.

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.

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

Key Wildlife Habitat

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|---|
| Northern Spotted Owl | Late Successional Reserve Critical habitat |
| Goshawk | Nesting habitat |
| Bald Eagle | Foraging habitat |

MANAGEMENT AREA #20

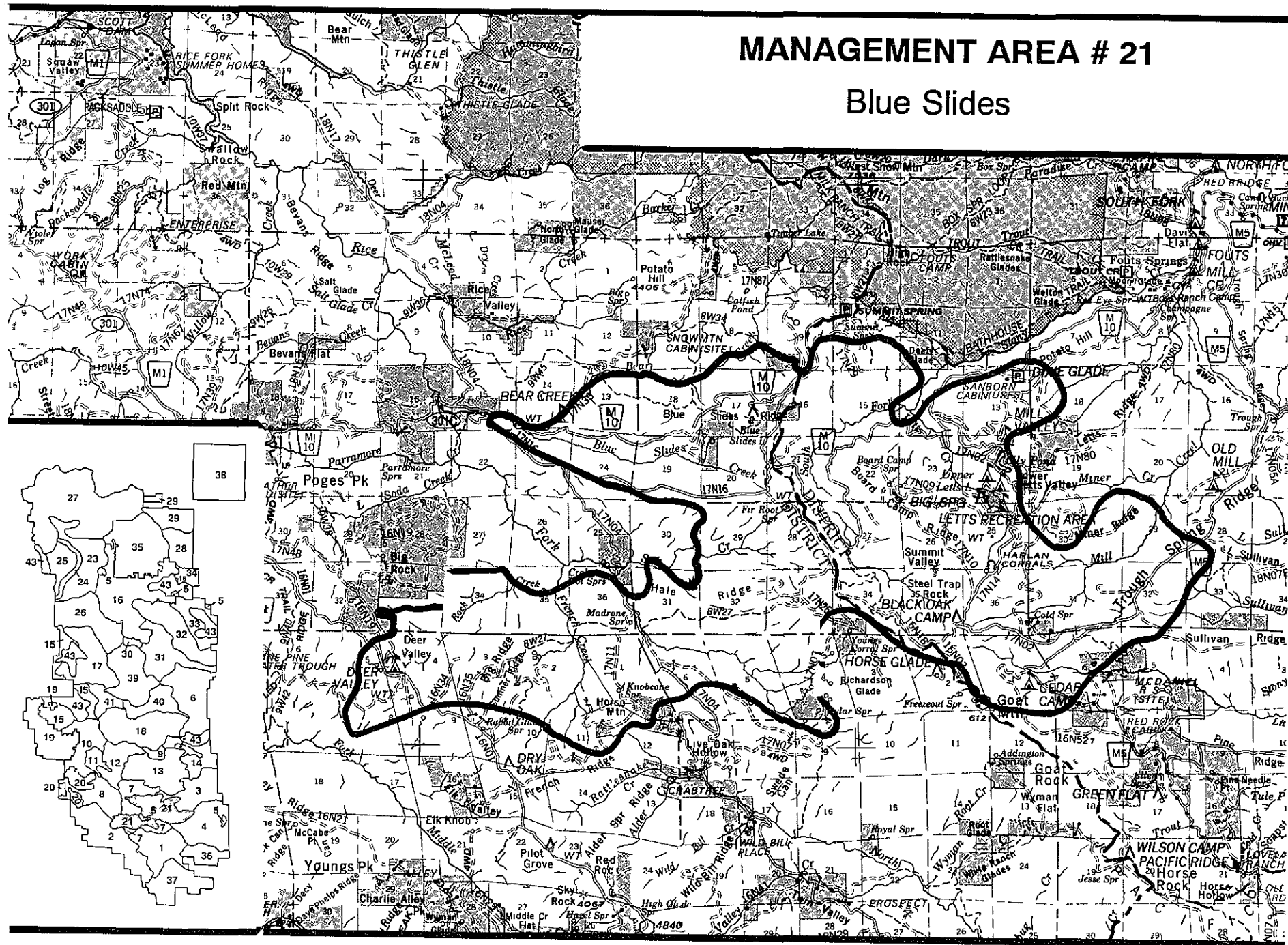
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

| <u>Vegetation Type</u> | <u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hardwood | 56 |
| Chaparral | 36 |
| Mixed Conifer | 471 |

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA # 21

Blue Slides



MANAGEMENT AREA #21

BLUE SLIDES

Total Acres 28,559

NF Acres 27,717

This management area extends northward to Deafy Glade and Bear Creek, westward to Deer Valley, southward to Goat and Horse Mountains, westward to Deer Valley campground, and eastward to the headwaters of Sullivan Creek. This management area is divided between Colusa and Lake Counties.

Elevations range from approximately 2,400 feet in Rock Creek to over 6,100 feet at Goat Mountain. Soils of the area are moderately to highly erodible, with instances of instability along most of the drainages. The vegetation consists of large tracts of brush and knobcone pine below the 3,400 foot elevation, and mixed conifers above 3,400 feet, particularly on north facing slopes.

The Blue Slides Management Area is entirely within LSR RC313, largely critical habitat for the northern spotted owl, and it contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting habitat for northern spotted owl and goshawk. The eastern portion of the management area contains foraging habitat for bald eagle and osprey. Meadows in the Letts Lake Recreation Area are important deer fawning areas, and the area contains a portion of the Middle Creek key deer winter range. Letts Lake is a very popular fishing area. The lake is stocked with hatchery trout by the Department of Fish and Game, and it also contains largemouth bass and catfish. Stream fishing access at the upper elevations along the South Fork of Stony Creek is marginal due to the brush covered, narrow canyons.

The sensitive plant species Epilobium nivium is known to occur within this area.

This area poses moderate fire hazards. Timbered areas have light to moderate fuel loading of logging slash. The 1987 Fouts fire burned approximately 320 acres north of road 17N16 in the North Glade area. *Fire intensity varied widely. Brush areas and streamside zones burned by the fire were seeded to grass to protect water quality and minimize erosion.*

Recreational uses of the area include hunting, fishing, hiking, motorcycle riding, and camping. Centers of use include Upper Letts Lake recreation area, Cedar Camp, Deer Valley Campground, Board Camp summer home tract, and numerous sites for dispersed recreation use. Use at Deer Valley Campground is moderate and comes primarily from motorcyclists, hunters, and those wanting campsites in the timber. Mountain bike use is increasing, complementing moderate to heavy OHV use. Heavy OHV use occurs during the fall and spring on trails in this as well as surrounding areas. A portion of the Statewide OHV Corridor passes through this area.

About 65% of the forested land is accessed by the current transportation system, with unaccessed areas consisting of small enclaves of timber surrounded by brush and unstable areas. There are active current grazing permits in the area. Heavy grazing use has impacted glades and riparian areas in the eastern portion, and the overall condition of the rangelands to the west is good. No mining activity takes place at present. Some of the streams that originate within this area flow northwest into Lake Pillsbury and support downstream uses including power generation, irrigation, and domestic water. Other streams flow east into East Park and Stony Gorge Reservoirs.

A progeny test site managed by the North Zone Tree Improvement Unit is located on Trough Spring Ridge. A long-term research area, Levels of Growing Stock (LOGS Plots), is located near the progeny test site. This study was established and is maintained by the Pacific Southwest Experimental Station (PSW).

MANAGEMENT AREA #21

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

| <u>Management Prescription</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Late Successional Reserve | 27,717 |

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.

Analyze existing OHV trail system within the management area, and eliminate or close OHV trails which can be shown to adversely affect the northern spotted owl or goshawk. Avoid constructing new OHV trails in suitable or potentially suitable 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 spotted owl activity centers for the remainder of the year.

Complete an inventory of nonsystem roads and trails. Evaluate the need for and suitability of these roads and trails. Based on that evaluation, either rehabilitate them and add to the system, obliterate them, or close them to further use.

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.

Analyze opportunities for developing watchable wildlife areas and wildlife habitat interpretation for the public in the Letts Lake vicinity.

Rehabilitate meadows and glades for deer fawning and forage. Manage livestock to protect glades and meadows from overutilization

Improve trail access for stream fishing

Direct OHV use away from Letts Lake recreation area and Board Camp summer home tract.

Analyze the area between 18N01 and Salt Creek for loop and lateral OHV trail development, consistent with management area objectives.

Continue working to reduce existing concentrations of logging slash and other hazardous fuels, as necessary to protect northern spotted owl habitat and other resource values.

Coordinate all management activities near the progeny test site and the LOGS Plots with the North Zone Tree Improvement Unit and PSW, respectively.

MANAGEMENT AREA #21

Key Wildlife Habitat

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|---|
| Northern Spotted Owl | Late Successional Reserve |
| Goshawk | Critical habitat |
| Bald Eagle | Nesting habitat |
| Deer | Foraging habitat |
| | Portions of Hale Ridge key winter range and Goat Rock key summer range |

Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

| <u>Vegetation Type</u> | <u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hardwood | 33 |
| Chaparral | 152 |
| Mixed Conifer | 1,023 |

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type

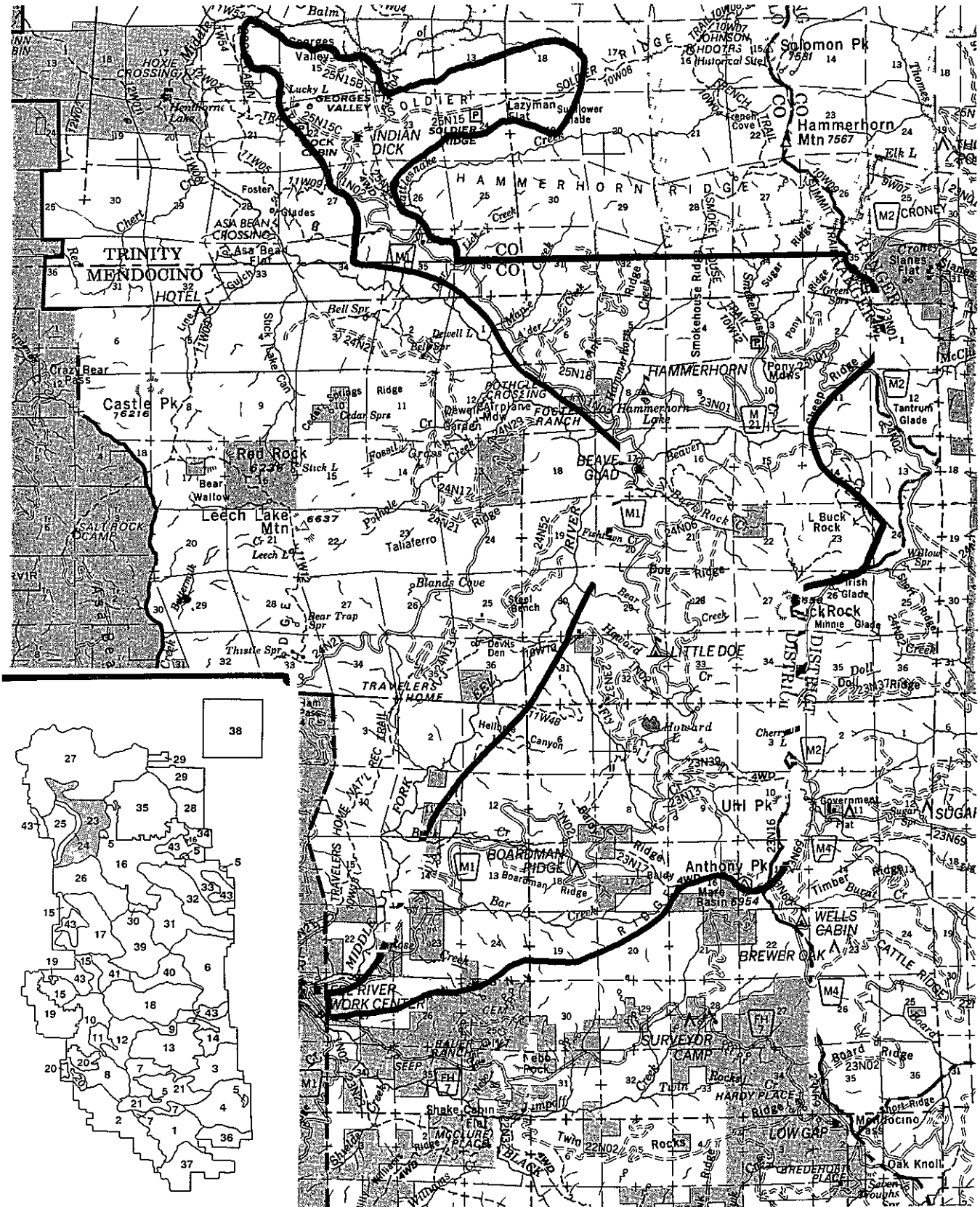
There is no management area #22.



There is no management area #22.

MANAGEMENT AREA #23

Buck



MANAGEMENT AREA #23

BUCK

Total Acres 32,975
NF Acres 31,522

The Buck Management Area extends north from Anthony Ridge to the Mendocino County Line. The area lies primarily in Mendocino County with the northern arm falling within Trinity County. The area is bordered on the north by the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness, and on the west by the Middle Fork of the Eel River Wild and Scenic River corridor.

Elevations range from 2,000 feet at the southern portion of the area above the Middle Fork of the Eel River to 6,658 feet at Buck Rock. Terrain is steep and mountainous. Soils are moderately erodible overall, becoming more unstable in the canyons and drainages. The area from Anthony Peak to Buck Rock has numerous barren areas, probably caused by livestock grazing in the early 1900's. The large Espee landslide is located above Howard Lake. The stream channel and riparian resources of Howard Creek are in the process of naturally recovering from damage caused by a 1964 flood. Vegetation in this management area consists primarily of mixed conifer forests. Hardwoods, chaparral, and glade areas are scattered throughout the area. Numerous natural springs are found in the Georges Valley area. The area contains 7,773 acres of suitable timberland.

The two major big game species present are black-tailed deer and black bear. The Rattlesnake Creek area contains suitable habitat for elk. Numerous sightings of northern spotted owl have been recorded in this area. This management area contains habitat for northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. Potential peregrine falcon nesting sites are also located within the management area. Bald eagles have been seen foraging in this management area. This management area is entirely within the Middle Fork of the Eel River key watershed. Several of the Middle Eel tributaries have significant self-sustaining resident trout populations. These tributaries are critical suppliers of high-quality cold water to the Middle Eel, helping support that anadromous fishery.

This area contains two cold-water lakes and numerous small creeks which flow into the Middle Eel. Hammerhorn and Howard Lakes provide important trout fishing opportunities. Both these fisheries are supported by annual stocking by the California Department of Fish and Game. No fish would exist in either of these lakes without the annual stocking, as no natural reproduction occurs.

Three sensitive plant species have been found within this management area: Howellia aquatilis, Lupinus antoninus and Raillardella scabrda. Potential habitat also exists for Epilobium nivium and Lewisia stebbinsii.

Small, infrequent, lightning-caused fires have occurred here in the past.

Approximately 70% of the forested land is currently accessed, with the main access being road M-1. Recreation use is mainly in the form of camping and fishing at Hammerhorn Lake Campground. Hunting and dispersed camping are popular during the fall hunting season. Howard Lake is becoming a popular recreation area. Three trailheads for foot and horse trails accessing the Wilderness are located in the northern portion of the management area. Beaver Glade Station administrative site is located in this management area. Anthony Peak, an administrative site, served as a fire lookout station for many years. The lookout facility still exists and has significant historic value. An electronic site is also located on Anthony Peak.

Other important uses of the area are timber and livestock forage production. The Anthony cattle allotment and portions of the Middle Fork and Foster Glades cattle allotments are within this management area. The area has numerous private inholdings scattered throughout.

MANAGEMENT AREA #23

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

| <u>Management Prescription</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Wildlife Emphasis | 1,417 |
| Chaparral Management | 1,694 |
| Minimal Management | 18,638 |
| Late Successional Reserve * | 2,000 |
| Timber Modified | 7,773 |

* Estimated Unmapped LSRs

Management Direction

Evaluate the effects of proposed management activities within this management area on the Middle Fork Eel River Wild and Scenic River Corridor and its associated resource values

Design management activities to complement management in the adjacent Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness.

Upgrade trailhead sanitation facilities to encourage short term versus long term use Develop outfitter special use permit for corral facilities near Georges Valley trailhead.

Obtain public right-of-way across private property in section 8, T23N R10W at Little Baldy Ridge, to access Anthony Peak

Prohibit road construction within the two portions of the Wilderness Contiguous RARE II area (05137).

Analyze and pursue developed campground facilities, boat launch facilities, and related road access at Howard Lake. As part of this analysis, also evaluate the role of the existing Little Doe dispersed recreation area relative to developed campground facilities in this area, and the expected longevity of Howard Lake relative to the Espee Slide.

Emphasize implementation of projects identified to date in the Watershed Improvement Needs inventory Revegetate the Espee Slide and its alluvial fan at Howard Lake Continue riparian plantings along Howard Creek. Continue revegetation and other watershed restoration work in the high-elevation barren areas, emphasizing use of native plant species

Revegetate old landings and skid trails in Georges Valley, on Soldier Ridge, and at Rock Cabin.

Maintain the historic value and utility of Anthony Peak administrative site as a working lookout, whether it actually remains staffed or not

MANAGEMENT AREA #23

Maintain/enhance quality of meadows and glades in this area to provide quality habitat for deer fawning.

Evaluate areas along the high summit ridge which forms the eastern boundary of the Covelo Ranger District, for their suitability for various winter sports activities, and develop a long-term strategy for managing such uses.

Key Wildlife Habitat

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|---|
| Northern Spotted Owl | Dispersal habitat |
| Goshawk | Dispersal habitat |
| Marten/Fisher | Dispersal habitat |
| Peregrine Falcon | Potential nesting sites |
| Tule Elk | Potential reintroduction site |
| Deer | Portions of Indian Dick and Black Butte River key winter ranges |
| | Portion of Wells Cabin/Plaskett key summer range |

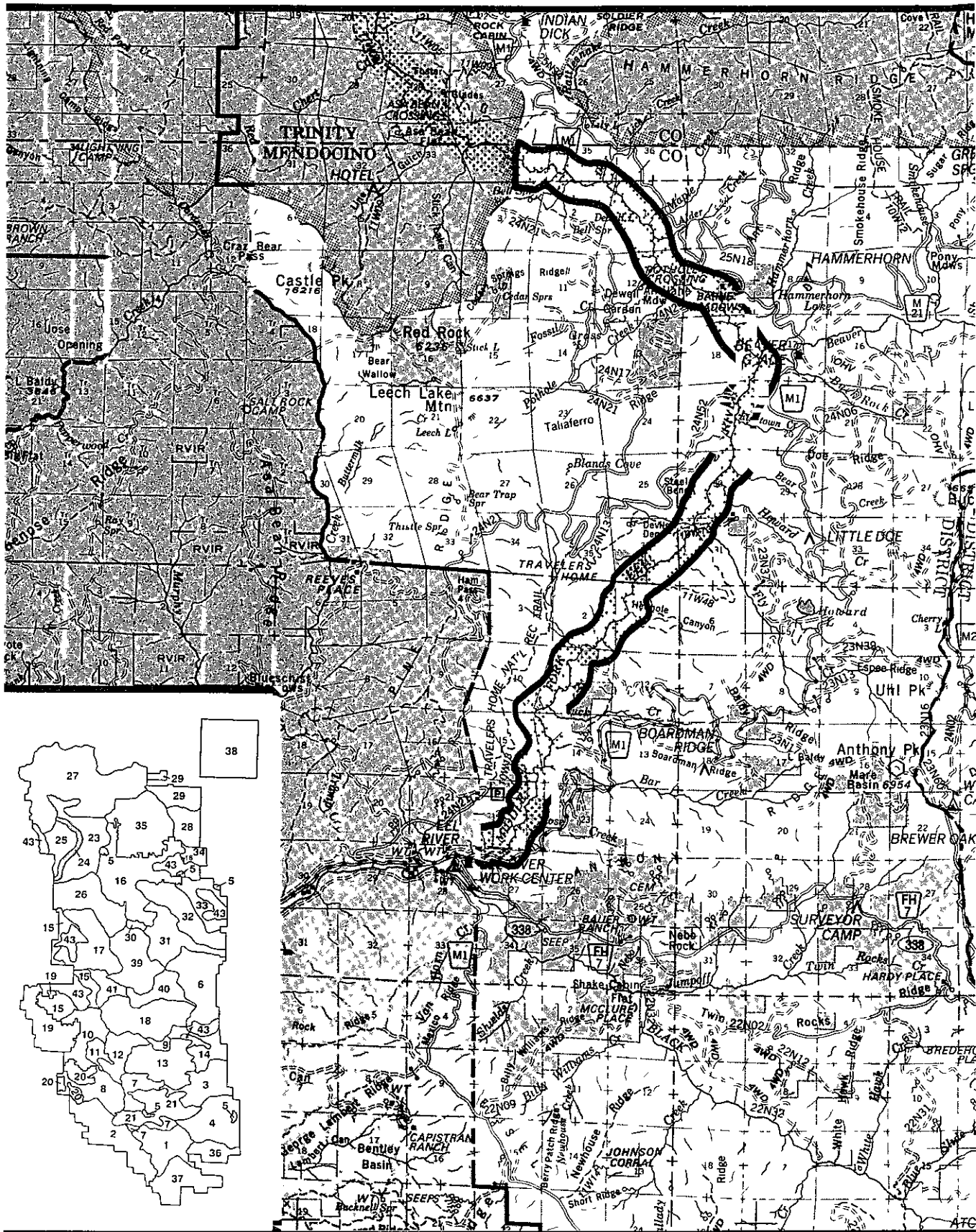
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

| <u>Vegetation Type</u> | <u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hardwood | 72 |
| Chaparral | 135 |
| Mixed Conifer | 1,344 |

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA # 24

Eel River



MANAGEMENT AREA #24

EEL RIVER

Total Acres 4,997
NF Acres 4,667

The Eel River Management Area includes the land along the Middle Fork of the Eel River from its intersection with the National Forest boundary upstream to the southern edge of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness. This section of the river is designated as "Wild" under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (P.L. 90-542). This management area is entirely within Mendocino County.

Terrain within this management area can be characterized as rugged all along the inner gorge of the Middle Fork of the Eel River. Landslides of natural origin are a common geologic feature, and active slides occur near Foster Glade, Dewell Lake, Howard Creek, and Pothole Creek. Stream boulder shifts and slides present a barrier problem to migrating summer steelhead, a sensitive species. The Eel River has the highest average annual sediment yield per square mile of any stream of comparable size in the United States. With the exception of a small amount of riparian vegetation along the river, vegetation is mostly brush, grass, weeds, and blue oak woodland. Rock outcrops and steep barren slopes are common.

Potential foraging and nesting habitat for bald eagle occurs within this management area. This area also contains several potential nest sites and one verified nest site for peregrine falcon. Habitat for northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk is found within the management area. This management area is entirely within the Middle Fork of the Eel River key watershed. The Middle Eel supports the largest single run of summer steelhead in the State, and illegal take of these fish poses a serious threat to their continued existence.

No sensitive plant species are known to occur within this management area.

Fire occurrence is low in this area.

This management area is entirely within the Middle Fork of the Eel River key watershed, and water in this management area provides for a primary holding area for summer steelhead. No timber harvest occurs in this management area, and no road construction is allowed.

This area is particularly sensitive in terms of presence, number, and vulnerability of historic and prehistoric heritage resources.

MANAGEMENT AREA #24

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

| <u>Management Prescription</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Wild & Scenic River | 4,667 |

Management Direction

Complete a Wild River Management Plan for the Middle Fork of the Eel River. Coordinate Wild River planning with the Bureau of Land Management. As part of the management plan, complete a boundary description of that portion of the Wild River corridor which lies outside of Wilderness.

Recommend Congressional designation of this Secretary designated river.

Evaluate and consider effects of proposed management activities within this management area on summer steelhead and other Wild River values.

Design public use facilities to avoid concentrating use which could adversely effect Wild River values.

Provide only the basic minimum facilities in keeping with the "essentially primitive" nature of the area when necessary to absorb user impacts on the resource.

Continue removal of barriers to fish passage in the Middle Fork Eel River.

Explore opportunities for vegetative landslide stabilization along the Middle Fork Eel River.

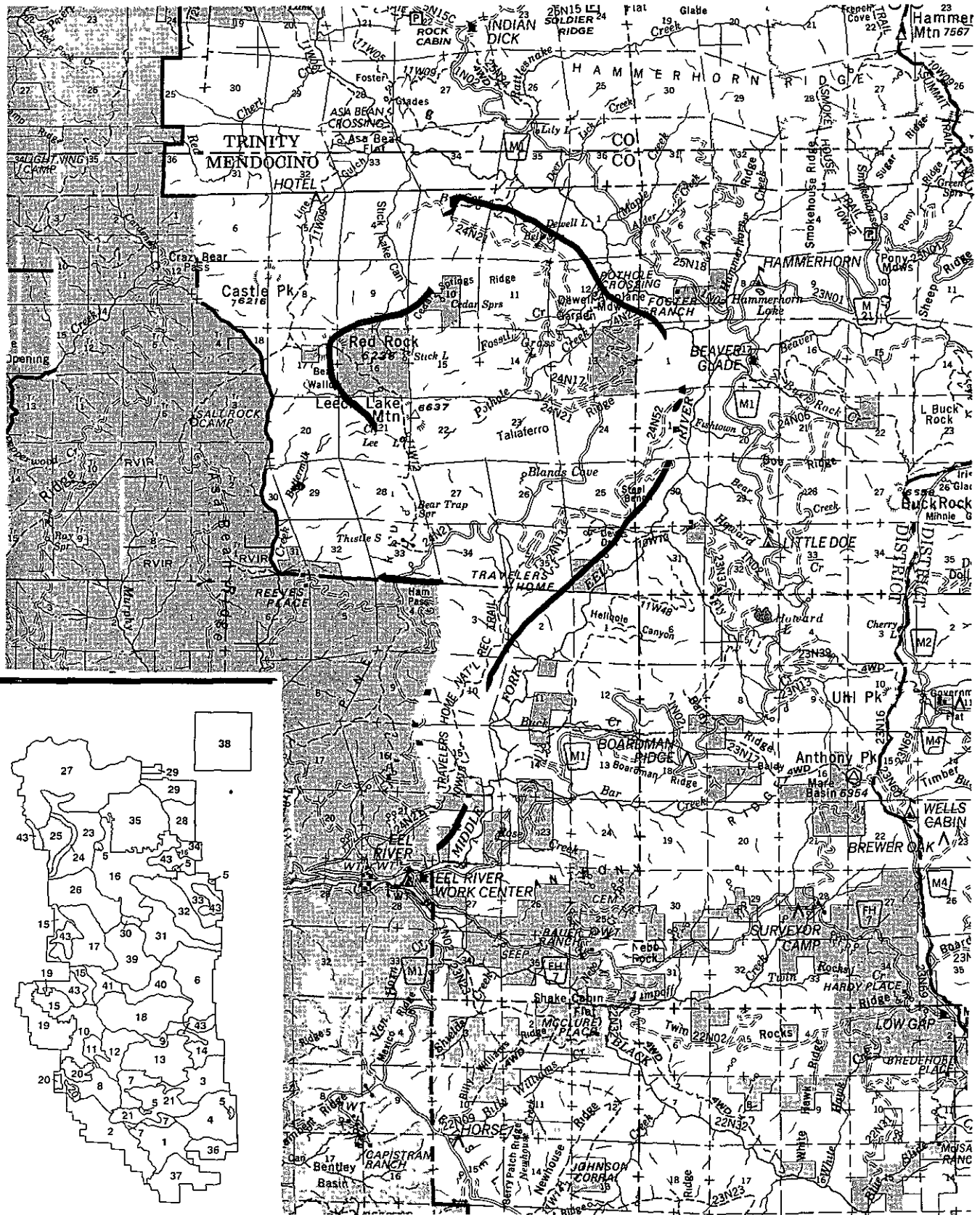
MANAGEMENT AREA #24

Key Wildlife Habitat

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|--|
| Northern Spotted Owl | Dispersal habitat |
| Goshawk | Dispersal habitat |
| Bald Eagle | Potential nesting and foraging habitat |
| Peregrine Falcon | Verified nest site and potential nest sites |
| Marten/Fisher | Dispersal habitat |
| Deer | Portions of Indian Dick and Black Butte River key winter range |
| Summer Steelhead | Holding, spawning, and rearing habitat |

MANAGEMENT AREA #25

Leech



MANAGEMENT AREA #25

LEECH

Total Acres 14,211
NF Acres 12,783

The Leech Management Area extends north from the Eel River Work Center to Dewell Lake and Bell Spring. The entire area is located in Mendocino County. This area is bordered on the north by the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness and on the east by the Wild portion of the Middle Fork of the Eel River.

Elevations range from 1,600 feet at Eel River Work Center to 6,637 feet at Leech Lake Mountain. Terrain is steep and rugged and drains into the Middle Fork of the Eel River. Soils are moderate to highly erodible becoming more unstable along the slopes of the Middle Fork Eel River Drainage. Vegetation consists of mixed conifers with white fir and Douglas-fir as the primary species. Oak and oak grasslands are predominant on the lower slopes. Some barren areas created by heavy grazing during the early 1900s exist around Leech Lake Mountain. This area contains 2,823 acres of suitable timberland.

The two major big game species present are black-tailed deer and black bear. Pothole Creek has a resident trout fishery and flows into the Middle Fork of the Eel River, which provides important habitat for summer steelhead. The entire management area is within the Middle Fork of the Eel River key watershed. Numerous sightings of northern spotted owl have occurred in this management area which also contains habitat for marten, fisher, and goshawk. Bald eagles have been seen foraging in this management area.

Raillardella scabrida is the only sensitive plant known to occur in this area. However, this area contains potential habitat for Epilobium nivium and Eriogonum nervulosum. The only two rust-resistant sugar pines identified to date on Covelo District are located within this management area.

Small, infrequent, lightning-caused fires have occurred here in the past.

Because of unstable slopes, only one main road traverses this area (#24N21). About 55% of the forested land is accessed by the existing transportation system. Recreation use occurs mainly in the form of hunting and dispersed camping during the fall hunting season. Also, use of the Travelers Home National Recreation Trail by hikers and backpackers has been increasing during the early spring. Some interest has been expressed in developing a dam and recreation site in the Blands Cove area.

Major uses of the area include livestock forage production and timber management. The Dewell Garden Cattle Allotment lies within the management area.

Low grade jade deposits have been located in the Leech Lake Mountain Area, but no mining activities have occurred recently.

The area has numerous private inholdings scattered throughout.

MANAGEMENT AREA #25

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

| <u>Management Prescription</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Wildlife Emphasis | 760 |
| Chaparral Management | 952 |
| Minimal Management | 7,248 |
| Late Successional Reserve * | 1,000 |
| Timber Modified | 2,823 |

* Estimated Unmapped LSRs

Management Direction

Evaluate the effects of proposed management activities within this management area on the Middle Fork Eel River Wild and Scenic River Corridor and its associated resource values.

Pursue acquisition of a public right-of-way along Leech Mountain trail through private land at the boundary of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness.

Improve trailhead parking facilities at both termini of the National Recreation Trail. Pursue right-of-way acquisition, special use permits, or land exchanges as necessary.

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

Analyze the feasibility of revegetating barren areas around Leech Lake Mountain using native plant species.

Protect paleontological resources near Fossil Creek, Leech Lake Mountain, and Travelers Home Creek.

Key Wildlife Habitat

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|--|
| Northern Spotted Owl | Dispersal habitat |
| Goshawk | Dispersal habitat |
| Deer | Portions of Indian Dick key winter range land Leech Lake Mountain key summer range |
| Bald eagle | Foraging habitat |

MANAGEMENT AREA #25

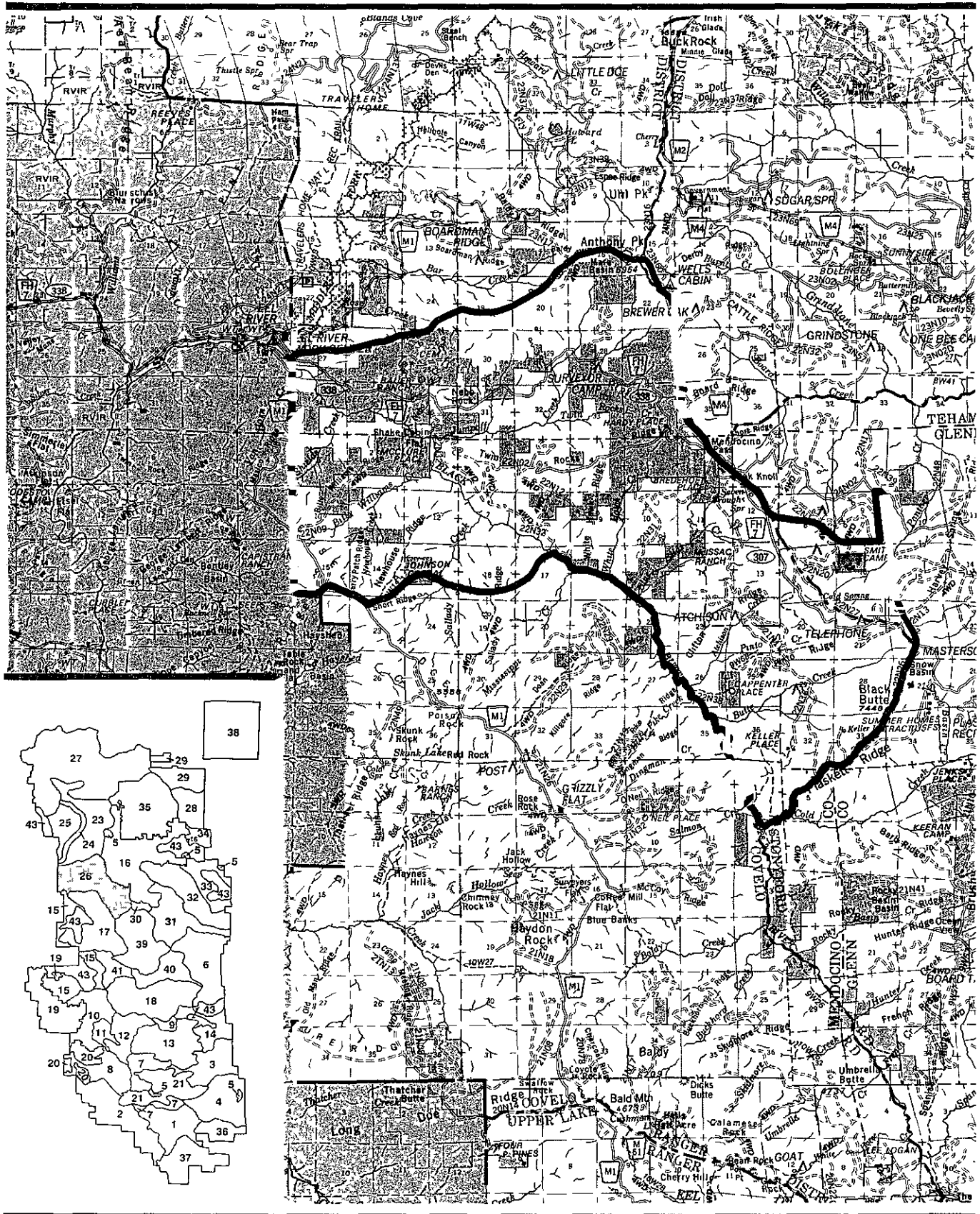
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

| <u>Vegetation Type</u> | <u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hardwood | 57 |
| Chaparral | 76 |
| Mixed Conifer | 519 |

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA # 26

Twin Rocks



MANAGEMENT AREA #26

TWIN ROCKS

Total Acres 36,362

NF Acres 26,790

The northern boundary of the Twin Rocks Management Area runs from Eel River Work Center to Anthony Peak. Its western border coincides with the Mendocino National Forest boundary. The southern boundary runs from Etsel Ridge east to Black Butte River, and follows the Black Butte River to its confluence with Cold Creek. The eastern boundary runs along Plaskett Ridge and the high divide marking the east boundary of the Covelo district. The management area is located in Glenn and Mendocino Counties.

Terrain is varied and diverse. The area is drained by Black Butte River. Elevations range from 1,600 feet near Eel River Station to 7,448 feet at Black Butte. Soils are highly erodible on high barren areas and on slopes immediately above major drainages. Some gully erosion is occurring in the glades below Forest Highway 7, and in the southwest portion of this management area near Etsel Ridge. Risk of landslides is moderate overall, but high to extreme in some of the steeper canyons. Vegetation is predominantly mixed conifer interspersed with chaparral, glades, and hardwoods. Some pure stands of red fir exist at higher elevations. The area contains 3,292 acres of suitable timberland.

The Twin Rocks Management Area supports numerous wildlife species due to its diversity of vegetation types and seral stages. Wildlife populations include black bear, wild turkey, prairie falcon, mountain lion, northern spotted owl, blue grouse, mountain and California quail, and numerous other mammal and bird species. The southern portion of the Twin Rocks Management Area contains critical habitat for the northern spotted owl between MA 16 and MA 17. This area provides important summer and winter range for black-tailed deer. The Black Butte vicinity contains suitable habitat for elk. Bald eagles have been seen foraging along Black Butte River. Several wildlife burning projects, including projects within the Brewer Oak type, have been conducted in the area to increase deer forage production. The majority of this management area is within the Black Butte River key watershed due to important runs of salmon and steelhead and resident rainbow trout. Most of the tributaries to the Black Butte River have low flows of less than 0.5 cubic feet per second, however, they are important spawning areas and provide cold water in the summer. Jumpoff Creek supports a good resident trout population, and Keller Lake supports a non-native population of eastern brook trout.

The sensitive plant species Lewisia stebbinsii, Lupinus antoninus, and Raillardella scabrida are known to occur in this area. Another species which occurs here and may be of special interest is Cypripedium montanum. A unique sphagnum bog (Keller Lake) is also located within this management area, and potential habitat exists for Epilobium nivium and Linanthus harknessii ssp. condensatus.

Forested sites are managed for timber production, and include the Pinto Ridge Christmas Tree Management Area.

Other important uses of this area include recreation and livestock grazing. Recreation use is mainly in the form of hunting and dispersed camping during the hunting season. Anthony Peak, Seven Troughs Spring, and Black Butte are also used as snow play areas. This management area includes several unique areas, Keller Lake, Twin Rocks, and Anthony Peak. The Twin Rocks cattle allotment is within this management area. This area is sensitive in terms of the presence, number, and vulnerability of historic and prehistoric heritage resources. Numerous private inholdings including the Bauer Subdivision are scattered throughout this management area, and pose increased risks for wildfire prevention and suppression.

MANAGEMENT AREA #26

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

| <u>Management Prescription</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Wildlife Emphasis | 6,674 |
| Chaparral Management | 2,984 |
| Minimal Management | 13,540 |
| Late Successional Reserve * | 300 |
| Timber Modified | 3,292 |

* Estimated Unmapped LSRs

Management Direction

Manage suitable timberlands north of Twin Rocks ridge utilizing uneven-aged or selection silvicultural systems. Limit openings created by timber harvest to two acres maximum.

Evaluate the suitability of Twin Rocks, Keller Lake, and Anthony Peak for designation as Special Interest Areas. Protect these areas from activities that could detract from their special characteristics, until suitability evaluations are completed. At Keller Lake, balance protection of botanical values with protection of fishery values. Recommend suitable areas for designation, and protect those areas pending final classification decisions.

Complete a suitability analysis of the Black Butte River and Cold Creek for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System within two years of Plan approval. If found suitable, complete Study Reports/Legislative Environmental Impact Statements with recommendation decisions within 3 years of Forest Plan approval. Protect outstandingly remarkable values found within the river corridors until final recommendations have been reached regarding suitability of Black Butte River and Cold Creek for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Manage Pinto Ridge Christmas Tree Management Area for production of commercial quality Christmas trees.

Emphasize gully stabilization work below Forest Highway 7 and in the southwest portion of the management area near Etsel Ridge.

Analyze and pursue upgrading of Forest Highway 7 to a surfaced, two-lane standard, and evaluate the suitability of this route for designation as a Scenic Byway.

Evaluate areas along the high summit ridge which forms the eastern boundary of the Covelo Ranger District, for their suitability for various winter sports activities, and develop a long-term strategy for managing such uses.

Continue burning chaparral and brewer oak within key deer winter and summer range to improve deer forage.

MANAGEMENT AREA #26

Defer annual livestock grazing until mid-summer in the high-elevation meadows near Telephone Camp, to provide fawning cover for deer and ground-nesting habitat for birds, and to also protect nearby glades.

Key Wildlife Habitat

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|--|
| Northern Spotted Owl | Dispersal habitat Critical habitat |
| Goshawk | Dispersal habitat |
| Marten/Fisher | Dispersal habitat |
| Peregrine Falcon | Potential nest site |
| Tule Elk | Potential reintroduction site |
| Deer | Portions of Black Butte River key winter range; portions of Wells Cabin/Plaskett and Etsel Ridge key summer ranges |
| Bald eagle | Foraging habitat |
| 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 | 302 |
| Chaparral | 239 |
| Mixed Conifer | 656 |

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.