
Mission

A mission is a guiding principle toward which all activities focus and contribute.

The mission of the Tonto National Forest is to meet recurring stewardship responsibilities for National Forest lands and resources by: Providing a continuing supply of quality water for National Forest and downstream needs; providing a quality mix of year-round outdoor recreation experience opportunities for personal enjoyment ranging from develop recreation sites to wilderness experiences; archaeological investigation and interpretation; promoting quality wildlife and fish habitat, including preserving habitat for known Threatened and Endangered species; providing for grazing of domestic livestock; providing for the utilization of timber, minerals, and special land uses in a manner that is compatible with other resource production and use, while assuring wise management of cultural and visual resources; expanding public understanding of the environment and resource programs; and coordinating activities with interested City, County, State, and other Federal agencies as well as with individuals and groups.

Goals

By the end of Period 5, the Forest is attempting to achieve a management situation that can respond to local or national demands for wood products, livestock production, water yield and a wide mix of recreation opportunities, including wildlife related uses, that range from the primitive to the urban end of the spectrum. The goal is to produce these outputs and opportunities on a sustained basis while maintaining air, soil, and water resources at or above minimum local, State, or Federal standards. Levels of output and use opportunities would be adjusted so they are within long-term supply potentials, and to ensure the impact on cultural, visual, wildlife, and vegetative resources can be mitigated to protect these resources for future management options. Activities related to mineral development and public utility needs would be permitted within the framework of existing laws and environmental concerns.

The intent of management is to promote dependent user stability through direct supply of products such as wood and forage and to provide community stability and enjoyment through the direct or indirect supply of products and other opportunities.

Goals have been identified by each resource element toward which management would be directed.

A goal is defined as "a concise statement of the state or condition that a land and resource management plan is designed to achieve. A goal is usually not quantifiable and may not have a specific date for completion."(36 CFR 219.3).

Where possible, activity codes and prescription numbers have been referenced to indicate where specific standards and guidelines for implementing goals and objectives can be found.

Soil, Water and Air Quality

Provide direction and support to all resource management activities to (1) meet minimum air and water quality standards, (2) emphasize improvement of soil productivity, air and water quality, (3) augment water supplies when compatible with other resources, (4) enhance riparian ecosystems, by improved management. All major riparian areas under intensive management by 1995, (5) obtain water rights necessary to ensure orderly resource development, and (6) inventory and interpret soil, air and water resources. Resource planning and management activities within the desert zone must fully recognize the limitations this unique ecosystem has to the impacts of man's uses and activities.

Management Directions

sources. Resource planning and management activities within the desert zone must fully recognize the limitations this unique ecosystem has to the impacts of man's uses and activities.

The standards and guidelines for conservation of soil and water resources; protection and treatment of streams, streambacks, shorelines, lakes, wetlands, and other water bodies are found in the Regional Guide; Region 3 TE Note 23 and Hydrology Notes 11 and 14; and individual management prescriptions. The majority of the specific standards and guidelines are in the Forest-wide prescription decision units 33, 34, 63, 45, 48, 62, 51 and activities F01, F02, F03, F04, F05, K01, K03, K04, K05, K06. Some individual management area prescriptions contain additional specific standards and guidelines in these decision units and activities.

Standards and guidelines for air quality are found in the Regional Guide, and individual management prescriptions under decision units 2 and 3 and activities A03, P16, and P17.

Protection

Fire Management - Fire will be recognized as a resource management tool and will be included within a management prescription where it can effectively accomplish resource management objectives. The long term goal of fire management is to re-introduce fire back into fire dependent ecosystems, and allow it to resume its natural role. The priorities for managing wildland fire will be the protection of public and firefighter safety, property, natural and cultural resources to minimize negative impacts. Fire management, including suppression activities, will be commensurate with resource values and objectives. The criteria for determining and managing Wildland and Prescribed Fires must meet agency direction.

Wildland Fire - Wildland Fire will be managed regardless of Wilderness area and agency boundaries as determined by resource and/or Wilderness objectives identified in a Wildland Fire Implementation Plan.

Prescribed Fire - In areas where it is not possible to allow fire to fully resume its natural role within an ecosystem, Prescribed Fire will be applied to meet management objectives.

Wildland/Urban Interface - Wildland Fires in the Interface pose an immediate threat to life, property, and adjacent resources.

Actively participate with all interested and potentially affected parties to develop strategic Interface management measures to reduce Wildland Fire threats to life, property and resources, address issues of Forest health, and provide for community partnerships including treatments of vegetation and fuels, and access needs.

Wildland Fires threatening the Wildland/Urban Interface will have high suppression priority.

Pest Management - Through Integrated Pest Management (IPM), manage resources to prevent a build-up of insects and diseases to prevent or reduce serious, long lasting hazards.

Specific standards and guidelines can be found in the prescriptions in decision units 56, 61 and activities P08, P09, P11, P12, P13, P14, P15, P34, P35, and P39.

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Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife and fish habitat elements will be recognized in all resource planning and management activities to assure coordination that provides for species diversity and greater wildlife and fish populations through improvement of habitat. Ensure that fish and wildlife habitats are managed to maintain viable populations of existing native vertebrate species. Improve habitat for selected species. Cooperate with appropriate State Fish and Wildlife agencies. Prevent destruction or adverse modification of critical habitats for Threatened and Endangered species and manage for a goal of increasing population levels that will remove them from the lists.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in individual management area prescriptions under decision units 11, 12, 14, 14, 61, 19, 20 and activities C01, C02, C06, C09, C12, C03, E00, and E03.

Transportation and Utility Corridors

Provide that right-of-ways grants are confined to designated corridors to the extent practicable.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in the Regional Guide, and in the Forest-wide prescriptions and prescription 28 under decision units 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 and activities J01, J02.

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Transportation and Administrative Facilities

Provide a serviceable road and trail transportation system to meet public access, land management, and resource protection needs. Provide administrative facilities to meet resource and activity needs and which meet pollution abatement standards where applicable.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in the Regional Guide, and individual management area prescriptions under decision units 48, 51, 50, 52, 53 and activities L01, L02, L03, L04, L05, L06, L07, L08, L09, L10, L11, L12, L13, L16, L17, L18, L19, L20, L23, L24, L25

Timber

On forested lands identified as suitable for commercial timber production, manage the timber resource to provide the full potential yield of quality timber on an sustained yield basis. Design of timber management activities will integrate considerations for water quality, soils, wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, visual, and other values. Develop and implement a fuelwood management program for the Forest.

Specific standards and guidelines for utilization, restocking, openings, and coordination of manipulation of the vegetative resource are found in the Regional Guide, and individual management area prescriptions under decision units 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and activities E00, E06, E07, C01, D03, E03, E05.

Outdoor Recreation

Maintain and enhance visual resource values by emphasizing recreation resource management which will increase opportunities for a variety of developed and dispersed experiences. Provide those developed sites needed to meet most of the public demand and to support dispersed visitor use.

Emphasize visual quality objectives in all resource planning and management activities.

Conduct inventory, evaluation, nomination, management protection, scientific study, public interpretation, and enhancement of cultural resources in accordance with the management prescriptions, and objectives and priorities identified in Appendix H. Coordinate planning for these activities with the State Cultural Resource Plan, and planning activities of the State Historic Preservation Office, and with other State and Federal agencies.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in individual management area prescriptions under decision units 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and activities A01, A02, A03, A04, A05, A06, A07, A08, A10, A14, A16, A18, A21.

Caves

Preserve and protect cave ecosystems as nonrenewable resources to maintain their geological, scenic, educational, cultural, biological, hydrological, paleontological, and recreational values.

Specific standards and guidelines for cave management are found in management area prescriptions under decision units 1, 11, 36, 41 and activities A01, C01, C09, D01, E00, F01, G01, G02, J01, L04.

Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers

Emphasize a wilderness management program which is interdisciplinary in approach, and which is directed towards achieving the intent of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and FSM 2320.

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Specific standards and guidelines are found in prescriptions for individual wilderness areas under decision units 2, 8 and activities A03, B01, B02.

Work cooperatively with the Coconino and Prescott National Forests to protect and enhance the specific outstandingly remarkable values within the designated Wild and Scenic segments of the Verde River. Protect its free-flowing condition and water quality.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in prescriptions 3, 4, and 25 and the Comprehensive River Management Plan.

Range

Emphasize a program of range administration which will bring the range resource under proper management and improve range forage conditions. Investigate, control, minimize, and eliminate unauthorized livestock use as a priority range management job.

The recognizable benefit of this emphasis will be improved watershed condition, range forage improvement, wildlife habitat improvement, and visual quality enhancement.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in the prescriptions under decision units 16, 17, 18 and activities D01, D02, D03, D04, D05, D06.

Lands

Use land ownership adjustment to accomplish resource management objectives. Post identifiable property boundaries.

Allow the use of available National Forest lands for appropriate public or private interests consistent with National Forest policies.

Resolve unauthorized occupancy and obtain needed rights-of-way.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in the prescriptions under decision units 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 and activities J01, J02, J03, J04, J05, J06, J07, J10, J11, J12, J13, J14, J15, J18, J29.

Minerals

Support environmentally sound energy and minerals development.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in the Regional Guide and in the prescriptions under decision units 35, 36, 37, 42 and activities J04, G01, G05, G06, G02, G07, G08, G09.

Law Enforcement

Cooperate with State and local law enforcement agencies in the protection of visitors and their property. Emphasize a high level of Forest Service law enforcement activities in areas of high recreation use and fuelwood production.

Specific standards and guidelines are found in the prescriptions under decision unit 58, and activities P24, P25, P27.

Objectives

An objective is defined as "a specific statement of measurable results to be achieved within a stated time period" [36 CFR 219.3(w)]. Forest objectives are quantitative. They are time-oriented outputs associated with a given budget level. The objectives are needed to meet missions and goals.

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Standards and guidelines to achieve the objectives are found in the Management Prescriptions section. Objectives for the Forest are shown in the following tables. Objectives which must be achieved in the short-term in order to meet projected outputs over the planning horizon (200 years) are shown for Periods 1, 2, and 3. Those which are long-term and are a result of budget emphasis or other resource activity are displayed for Periods 5 and 6.

Table 2 - Lists program outputs, activities, and costs for the Forest over the first fifty years. A comparison of RPA targets with Period 1 and 5 outputs can be found in Table 65 of the EIS.

Table 3 - Existing Recreation Site Rehabilitation - Periods 1 and 2.

Table 4 - Schedule for Recreation Site Construction - Periods 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Table 5 - Trail Construction/Reconstruction Schedule - Periods 1 and 2.

Table 6 - Administrative Facilities Construction Schedule - Period 1.

Table 7 - Standard Vegetation Treatment Table

Table 8 - Timber Offering Schedule - Period 1.

Table 9 - Special Area Designations - Period 1.

Table 10 - Desired Vegetative Conditions - Period 5.

Table 11 - Predicted Population Trends of Management Indicator Species – Period 5.

Table 12 - Cultural Resources Management - Period 5.

All Tables are located in Appendix K.

Management Direction

Range Management Program Criteria

The following discusses the range program strategies that will continue to be implemented over the planning period.

The goal of the Forest Range Management Program is to bring the permitted grazing use in balance with the forage allocated for use by domestic livestock, and to have all allotments under appropriate levels of management during the third time period. This program recognizes the need for range analyses and production utilization studies to determine this balance, as well as opportunities to negotiate livestock number adjustments and range management strategies with permittees. Also incorporated into the process of balancing permitted grazing use with capacity are the social and economic needs of permittees. Scheduling of livestock adjustments must recognize the economic viability of each ranching operation. The time frame of actual accomplishment depends considerably on permittee willingness to implement proper management systems and level of range management funding for both operation and maintenance and range improvements.

Levels of estimated permitted use and grazing capacities are based on current estimated land capabilities to produce forage for domestic livestock on a sustained yield basis. Figures cannot be viewed as being absolute or precise as actual levels of permitted use and grazing capacities will depend greatly on more in-depth studies and/or estimates, intensity and effectiveness of management, and actual response and improvement in the forage resource resulting from improved management practices.

The criteria or steps used to implement the range program on each allotment are as follows:

1. Through range analysis and production utilization surveys and/or agreement on a proper level of permitted use with permittees, provide a balance of permitted use with forage capacity.
2. Cooperatively with the permittee, develop an allotment management plan that establishes allotment goals and objectives and provides for grazing systems and management practices that will provide an improving trend in range conditions.
3. Identify the structural and non-structural improvements needed to facilitate implementation of the grazing systems and management practices in the allotment management plan.
4. Develop an annual action plan and schedule for improvements, through program planning budgeting system.
5. Monitor allotment management plans to determine if management objectives are being met.

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Management Prescriptions

Mission, goals, and objectives for the Tonto National Forest are attained through applying groups of management activities to specific units of land. Groups of management activities are called “Prescriptions” and the land units are called “Management Areas.” This portion of the Forest Plan describes the linkage between prescriptions and the management areas.

Prescriptions are management practices selected and scheduled for application on a specific area to attain multiple use and other goals and objectives [36 CFR 219.3 (u)]. A management area is a unit of land where a given prescription is to be applied. These areas are outlined on the Management Area Map accompanying this Forest Plan.

All prescriptions developed for the Forest Plan integrate a number of resource and support element activities and will produce a variety of outputs when applied to a management area. Each prescription is broken down into the following categories:

Description	Includes brief description of the physical, biological, and administrative characteristics of the management area to which the prescription applies. It also includes resource management and fire management emphasis statements.
Analysis Areas	<p>A list of all analysis areas (AA’s) where the prescription can be applied. The purpose of delineating AA’s is to predict the response of identified land areas to various management activities. AA’s can be defined and delineated on maps and can be identified on the ground. Data can be generated by area for the purpose of estimating the capability to provide goods, services, or resource uses for each prescription.</p> <p>AA’s are not necessarily contiguous areas. Separate areas of the same type are found on the Forest with the total of all such areas defining a single AA. AA’s are homogeneous in climate, slope, landform, and vegetation. Each prescription is expected to have the same consequences or to produce the same results when applied to any acre within the AA. The Analysis Area Index in Appendix A is a quick reference.</p>
Activities	<p>A list of resource management activities applicable to management practices. These activities are grouped into resource or support elements and are identified by alpha/numeric code (e.g., A01, B01, etc.). Each activity has a unique code, title, and unit of measure for the work performed. The Activity Code Index is provided in Appendix B.</p> <p>Resource program elements are defined as major mission-oriented activities that fulfill statutory or executive requirements.</p> <p>Support program elements encompass the activities necessary to maintain and facilitate outputs of several or all resource elements.</p>
Decision Units	A list of decision units applicable to management practices. A decision unit is a grouping of activities for which budgets are prepared and for which a manager makes decisions on the spending level and scope, direction, or quality of the work to be performed. Individual projects are grouped by decision unit for use in short-range program planning and in the budget process. The Decision Unit Index is provided in Appendix C.

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Applicable Analysis Areas A list of the analysis areas where each activity is applicable. Within a single prescription, some activities may be suitable for application on certain analysis areas whereas other activities are suited to a different set of analysis areas.

Standards and Guidelines A description of standards and guidelines that apply to each activity. Standards and guidelines set forth: 1) timing and intensity of planned activities; 2) specific policies that apply to activities in each prescription; and 3) mitigation measures and coordinating requirements needed to protect resources and the environment.

There are two categories of standards and guidelines, 1) Forest-wide standards and guidelines, and 2) management area standards and guidelines. Forest-wide standards and guidelines apply to the Forest as a whole. The management area standards and guidelines are specific either to the management area as a whole or to individual analysis areas within a management area. In some cases, there is a difference between the Forest-wide standards and guidelines and the management area standards and guidelines for a resource area and/or activity. In these cases, the management area standards and guidelines supersede the Forest-wide standards and guidelines.

Unless otherwise noted, the management practices indicated in various standards and guidelines will occur on an annual basis.

How to Apply the Prescriptions In applying management practices or activities, District Rangers or Staff locate the practices or activities on management and analysis area maps and field check the location to determine the applicable standards and guidelines to be met and the suitability of applying the practices or activities at that specific location. Practices or activities are monitored in accordance with Chapter 5, Monitoring Plan, to insure compliance with costs, outputs, and standards and guidelines.

The transition between vegetative zones on the Forest is extremely variable. This results in small segments of individual analysis areas occurring within certain management areas for which the standards and guidelines do not specifically apply to that analysis area. In these instances, proposed practices or activities will be governed by standards and guidelines from the Forest Plan which most accurately depict the real situation.

If proposed practices or activities are not adequately covered by the Plan, an environmental analysis is conducted to evaluate the proposal and alternatives to it, as well as coordinate the selected practices or activities with applicable standards and guidelines for the area. Additional management constraints not covered by the standards and guidelines in the Plan are determined at this time.

If the practices or activities in the Plan are not appropriate for a specific site because of land suitability or other conflicts with standards and guidelines, the planned action is redesigned or relocated. Major unforeseen practices or activities which cannot be changed and which conflict with the Plan may result in an amendment or revision. The Forest Supervisor accomplishes amendments or revisions after appropriate public notification [36 CFR 219.10 (f)].

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Table 13

Summary of Acres Allocated to Each Prescription (1)

Prescription Number	Management Area	Acres (Thousands)
1	1A	11.4
2	1B	120.6
3	1C	9.1
4	1D	.7
5	1E	18.4
6	1F	410.5
7	1G	*
8	2A	23.8
9	2B	23.0
10	2C	2.2
11	2D	15.8
12	2E	1.4
13	2F	384.9
14	3A	10.7
15	3B	52.5
16	3C	61.7
17	3D	42.0
18	3E	.5
19	3F	15.2
20	3G	1.2
21	3H	.5
22	3I	257.2
23	3J	(2)
24	4A	100.8
25	4B	1.0
26	4C	17.4
27	4D	129.8
28	4E	(3)
29	4F	203.8
30	5A	20.8
31	5B	19.4
32	5C	7.9
33	5D	139.5
34	5E	13.4
35	5F	1.3
36	5G	224.6
37	6A	9.6
38	6B	21.8
39	6C	9.8
40	6D	2.8
41	6E	.7
42	6F	65.6
43	6G	9.8
44	6H	11.1
45	6I	9.8
46	6J	369.6
47	6K	(4)
TOTAL:		2,873.3

(1) Acreage for this area included in Management Areas 1E and 1F.

(2) Acreage for this area included in Management Area 3F.

(3) This area less than 100 acres.

(4) Acreage for this area included in Management Area 6F.

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Management Prescriptions Applicable to all Forest Areas

<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
DU 1	A01, C01, D01, E00, F01, G01, J01, L04	All	<p>All surface-disturbing activities planned near or within a known cave area will be examined for potential impacts to the cave(s) and the area around each cave entrance(s), (plus feeder drainages and surface areas immediately over cave passages). The cave area will also be evaluated to determine protection measures needed.</p> <p>Protection measures for caves will be incorporated into project planning, and may include (but not be limited to) education, seasonal closures, and installation of entrance gates.</p>
DU 1	A01	All	<p>Develop a Forest-wide Cave Implementation Plan and use it as a basis for preparation of prescriptions for significant caves and any other selected cave. Evaluate appropriateness of recreation activities as a part of the plan.</p>
DU 1, 5	A01	1E, 1F, 2D, 2F, 2C, 3F, 3I, 4D, 4F, 5D, 5G, 6F, 6J	<p>Update an upgrade RIM database using double-sample techniques to determine use at developed recreation sites.</p>
		All	<p>Continue cooperative planning with other Forests and Federal, State, County, and local governments to coordinate Forest recreation management.</p>
		All	<p>Initiate Code-A-Site Inventories at dispersed recreation sites.</p>
		All	<p>Prepare comprehensive operation and maintenance (O&M) plan annually to ensure most effective use of dollars and manpower.</p>
		All	<p>Annually revise and review off-highway vehicle (OHV) maps. Inform the public to ensure maximum volunteer compliance of motorized vehicle restrictions.</p>
	A05, A06	All	<p>Allow for handicap use in developed and VIS site design.</p>
DU 3	A02	All	<p>The Forest will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and with Executive Order (EO) 11593, and will undertake active management that recognizes heritage (cultural) resources as equal in importance to other multiple uses. Heritage resources will be managed in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in accordance with the Programmatic Agreement regarding cultural property protection and responsibilities among New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, Texas State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and USDA Forest Service, Southwestern Region, signed in 1990 (hereafter referred to as the Programmatic Agreement or PA).</p>

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A cultural resources overview has been prepared that covers all Forest lands. It is available at the Forest Supervisor's and Regional Offices. A Forest-wide Cultural Resources Assessment and Management Plan (CRAMP) has also been prepared in consultation with the SHPO. The overview and CRAMP will be updated as required by new data and scientific research, by the management situation, and/or by planning needs.

Information from the overview and from other sources will be used to develop a framework for the identification, classification, and evaluation of known and predicted properties in the cultural resources management assessment, as provided for in the PA.

Interactions among cultural and other resources are considered in detail in the CRAMP, prepared in 1989. The interaction between cultural and other resources for any specific undertaking will be evaluated in project-level analysis.

For any proposed surface disturbing activity, the following standards will apply:

1. The Forest Service will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (as amended) and the PA.
2. The standards specified in the PA will be followed. Where the settlement document does not specify standards, those in the Forest Service Manual and Handbook will apply.
3. During the conduct of undertakings, the preferred management of sites listed in, nominated to, eligible for, or potentially eligible for the National Register is avoidance and protection. Exceptions may occur in specific cases where consultation with the SHPO indicates that the best use of the resource is data recovery and interpretation.
4. Sites listed in, nominated to, eligible for, or potentially eligible for the National Register will be managed during the conduct of undertakings to achieve a "No Effect" finding, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.
5. Where resource management conflicts occur, the desirability of in-place preservation of cultural resources will be weighed against the values of the proposed land use. Preservation of heritage resources in place will become increasingly important under the following conditions:
 - where present methods of investigation and data recovery cannot realize the current research potential of the sites;
 - where the sites are likely to have greater importance for addressing future research questions than current ones;
 - where the cultural values derive primarily from the qualities other than research potential, and where those values are fully realized only when the cultural remains exist undisturbed in their original context(s) (e.g. association with significant historical persons or events, special ethnic or religious values, or unique interpretive values);
 - where heritage resources are important primarily for the quality of their architecture and the integrity of their setting;

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-- where site density would make data recovery economically infeasible, or require unattainable operating conditions.

Where preservation in place is important under these conditions, the Forest Service will give serious consideration to such options as project redesign, relocation, or cancellation. The procedures specified in the PA, 36 CFR 800, the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (NAGPRA), and National Register Bulletin 38 will be followed in reaching a management decision.

6. Surface disturbing undertakings will be managed to comply with 36 CFR 800, the PA, NAGPRA, and Bulletin 38. All consultation responsibilities to the SHPO and Tribes, before, during, and after an undertaking, will be followed. The area of an undertaking's potential environmental impact will be surveyed for cultural resources and areas of traditional and/or religious use by Indian Tribes. Inventory standards will be as specified in the settlement document and in the Forest Service Handbook, and will be determined in consultation with the SHPO. Tribes will be consulted as appropriate.

Heritage resource management, including the formulation and evaluation of alternatives, will be coordinated to the extent feasible with the planning activities of the SHPO and with other State and Federal agencies and Tribes. This will be accomplished as follows: (a) consultation and meetings with such parties, (b) sharing of data, reports, plans, interpretations, and other documents, (c) coordination on National Register nominations, and (d) participation in the State cultural resources planning process.

All parts of the Forest not surveyed at the 100 percent level, and on which there is a likelihood that cultural resources exist, require more intensive inventory. Areas rated as highest priority for survey will be those that either (a) are expected to have high site densities, and/or (b) are important to understanding the historical or prehistoric occupations of the Forest. Such areas are identified in the CRAMP. At a minimum, survey of such areas will be undertaken in conjunction with annual update training for para-professional archeologists.

The Forest Service, through the CRAMP, has developed a prioritized list and schedule for nominating eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

In consultation with the SHPO, identified sites will be evaluated for eligibility for the National Register. Sites considered eligible will be assigned a priority for nomination. Sites not yet evaluated will be managed as if eligible, unless consultation with the SHPO indicates otherwise.

The National Register nominating criteria are contained in 36 CFR 60.4. These are further refined through the identification of historic contexts in the CRAMP and overview.

The Forest Service will nominate at least two individual sites per year for every full-time professional employed in the Forest's cultural resources management program.

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Alternatively, the Forest Service will submit at least one District, thematic, or multiple property nomination per year, or may cooperate with other Forests in producing such a nomination. A different submission schedule for specific multiple property nominations may be proposed to the SHPO. Any nomination returned by the Keeper of the National Register for reasons of technical inadequacy will be revised and resubmitted within 90 days, weather permitting.

Measures for the protection of cultural resources from vandalism and natural destruction will include regular inspection and, where necessary, electronic monitoring. Sites listed in or nominated to the National Register will be inspected biennially. Sites determined eligible for the National Register will be inspected periodically, unless previous data recovery has fully documented the characteristics that qualify the site for the Register. All other sites, except those formally determined ineligible for the National Register, will be inspected on a need or opportunity basis. Sites susceptible to rapid deterioration and/or human disturbance will be inspected most frequently.

Sites known to have sustained unusual damage, beyond minimal levels that normally occur from natural forces, will be listed in priority order for stabilization. This listing appears in the CRAMP.

Rapid natural deterioration, or susceptibility to this, will require planning for appropriate measures, such as stabilization and/or data recovery. Vandalism, collecting, or illicit excavation will require planning for protective measures, such as signing, fencing, administrative closure, remote sensing, increased patrolling, investigations, interpretive signs, District displays, media communications, and stabilization and/or data recovery. Specific sites or areas may be closed to OHV use and withdrawn from mineral entry. Parties known to have damaged cultural resources willfully or through negligence will be held legally and financially liable for the costs of stabilization and repair.

A cultural resources professional will inspect each site that may be affected by an undertaking, and each undertaking with the potential to affect cultural resources. At least one site, and not less than 20 percent of the sites, designated for protection within each undertaking will be inspected by a cultural resources specialist, sale administrator, contracting officer's representative, or project inspector. All sites listed in, nominated to, or formally determined eligible for the National Register will be inspected. Inspection will occur during the course of the undertaking, or at the close of undertakings with total duration of less than 72 hours. Inspection records will be provided to the SHPO.

Each Forest contract, permit, or lease that has the potential to affect cultural resources will contain a clause specifying site protection responsibilities and liability for damage. If damage to a cultural resource is found, the procedures specified in the PA and in the Forest Service Manual and Handbook, will be followed.

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Sites listed in or eligible for the National Register that need maintenance and/or stabilization are described in the CRAMP. Stabilization and/or maintenance plans will be developed for these sites and additional sites evaluated and given priority as the proposed work is accomplished.

Sites recommended for interpretive development (along with target audiences and objectives) are identified in the CRAMP. This listing of interpretive opportunities will be reviewed and updated as appropriate. Planning and implementation of onsite or other interpretive facilities will be scheduled as interpretive plans and designs can be prepared. Most of these sites have a long history of popular interest and high current levels of recreational visitation and they possess a number of qualities which make them especially attractive for developed interpretations. As these sites become developed, additional ones will be evaluated and priorities assigned for future accomplishments.

Other interpretive opportunities, that should be pursued as a high priority when opportunities arise, are:

1. Cultural resources displays in the Supervisor's Office and in District Offices.
2. Trails and interpretive signs at less frequently visited sites.
3. Preparation of popular literature, brochures, and films regarding the Forest's cultural resources.
4. Presentation of popular talks regarding the Forest's cultural resources.
5. Professional cultural resource interpretation for presentation at meetings and/or dissemination through professional publications.

DU 2	A03	All	Manage for Visual Quality Objectives (VQO's) ranging from Preservation to Maximum Modification as defined for each prescription and delineated in the Forest Visual Resource Inventory. Apply design guidelines found in USDA Handbooks and/or National Forest Landscape Management Series.
		All	Refine variety classes, sensitivity levels, and visual quality objectives when needed for project-level planning.
		All	Prepare comprehensive inventory of Visual Absorption Capacity (VAC).

Management Prescriptions

<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			Prepare viewshed corridor plans for all sensitivity Level 1 travel routes, use areas, and water bodies by 1995.
		All	Inventory existing visual condition of the landscape.
		All	Coordinate visual quality objectives (VQO) on lands adjacent to other Forests.
	A04	All	Carry out actual rehabilitation to restore facilities, lands, and/or resources to meet VQO's.
DU 1,5	A07	All	Prepare interpretive services O&M plan for year-long project work activities and programs. Coordinate interpretive services with adjacent Forests.
DU 1, 5	A08	3I, 4D, 5D	Maintain a full service level for visitor information services (VIS).
	A09	All except 3F, 3I, 4D, 5D	Visitor information and interpretive service programs will be at a level that encourages basic user safety. This would entail primarily issuance of Forest and recreation maps only and office receptionist service to the public.
	A10	3F, 3J, 4D, 5B	Install interpretive signs at selected locations throughout the Forest, keyed to crucial and/or interesting aspects of multiple use management.
	A11, A13, A14, A15, B02, B03	All	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classes will be managed according to the existing inventory (See Appendix E).
	A16	All	Commercial recreation special use permits may be issued to qualified applicants whose services are available to all members of the public when the proposed use (a) fulfills a demonstrated public need without unduly infringing on the use by the general public, (b) is identified in and is in accordance with an approved implementation plan (where called for), and will not cause the carrying capacity of the involved area to be exceeded, (c) does not serve a function that can logically be provided by private enterprise off National Forest System lands and will provide a type of recreation activity naturally associated with a National Forest, and (d) is complementary to Forest Service and Management Area objectives, programs, and purposes.
		All	* Permits for non-commercial recreation special uses
		All	Continue administration of existing recreation special use permits to assure compliance, and to assure that a quality public service is provided consistent with Forest Service and Management Area objectives.

*** Correction Notice** This guideline has been deleted because it did not comply with 36 CFR 251, Subpart B – Special Uses (FR45293 August 30, 1995). A “Special Use Permit for Noncommercial Group Uses” is required for any use or activity that does not involve a commercial use or activity, if that use or activity would involve a group of 75 or more people (either as spectators or participants).

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Decision Units	Activities	Applicable Management Areas	Standards and Guidelines
		All	Use established outfitter/guide allocations contained in the Standards and Guidelines for each Management Area as the basis for all decisions/recommendations (except for the category of "fishing guide" which is unlimited at this time). When unused service days are available, the maximum number of service days per permit may be temporarily increased, so long as the maximum number of permits and total service days per year are not exceeded (this is not allowed with "pool" service days).
	A18	All	Continue to cooperate with other agencies and governments to coordinate recreation management.
DU 2	A21	All	Develop and administer O&M plans for visual resource projects. Full participation in all project EA's for all proposals having a potential impact on the visual resource. All EA's will analyze the potential impact the proposed action may have on the visual resources. Landscape architecture input is required on all projects affecting visual resources.
DU 10, 11, 12, 13, 32	C01, E00	All	Study and refine the wildlife habitat management prescriptions for the different vegetative types.
		All Applicable Areas	<p>Until the forest plan is revised, allocate no less than 20 percent of each forested ecosystem management area to old growth as depicted in the table in Appendix L, page 271.</p> <p>In the long term, manage old growth in patterns that provide for a flow of functions and interactions at multiple scales across the landscape through time.</p> <p>Allocations will consist of landscape percentages meeting old growth conditions and not specific acres.</p> <p>All analyses should be at multiple scales - one scale above and one scale below the ecosystem management areas. The amount of old growth that can be provided and maintained will be evaluated at the ecosystem management area level and be based on forest type, site capability, and disturbance regimes.</p> <p>Strive to create or sustain as much old growth compositional, structural, and functional flow as possible over time at multiple area scales. Seek to develop or retain old growth function on at least 20 percent of the naturally forested area by forest type in any landscape.</p> <p>Use information about pre-European settlement conditions at the appropriate scales when considering the importance of various factors.</p> <p>Consider the effects of spatial arrangement on old growth function, from groups to landscapes, including de facto allocations to old growth such as goshawk nest sites, Mexican spotted owl protected activity centers, sites protected for species behavior associated with old growth, wilderness, research natural areas, and other forest structures managed for old growth function.</p>

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Decision Units	Activities	Applicable Management Areas	Standards and Guidelines
			<p>In allocating old growth and making decisions about old growth management, use appropriate information about the relative risks to sustaining old growth function at the appropriate scales, due to natural and human-caused events.</p> <p>Use quantitative models at the appropriate scales when considering the importance of various factors. These models may include, but are not limited to: Forest Vegetation Simulator, BEHAVE, and FARSITE.</p> <p>Forested sites should meet or exceed the structural attributes to be considered old growth in the five primary forest cover types in the southwest as depicted in the table in Appendix L, page 271.</p>
		All	<p>Locate and survey all potential Gila Topminnow sites. Where feasible stock sites, monitor for success, and restock if necessary.</p> <p>Identify, survey, map, and analyze habitat for all Federally-listed species. Identify management conflicts and enhancement opportunities. Correct any management conflicts or problems.</p>
		All	<p>Identify, survey, map, and analyze habitat for all state species as listed in <u>Threatened Native Wildlife in Arizona</u>. Correct any management conflicts or problems.</p>
		All	<p>Continue to clear all projects for threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate plant and animal species. Clearances will be done by a Wildlife Biologist and reviewed by the Forest Biologist.</p> <p>New additions of listed, proposed, or candidate species by the US Fish and Wildlife Service will be protected.</p>
		All	<p>Where appropriate and feasible, culture and stock candidate plants such as Chiricahua Dock (<i>Rumex osthoneurus</i>) into suitable habitats to eliminate the need for formal listing by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.</p>
		All	<p>Survey, study, and assess the status of Desert Tortoise habitat on the Forest. Identify, document, and correct any management conflicts with Tortoises or their habitat.</p>
		All	<p>Maintain a minimum of 30% effective ground cover for watershed protection and forage production, especially in primary wildlife forage producing areas. Where less than 30% exists, it will be the management goal to obtain a minimum of 30% effective ground cover.</p>
		All	<p>Habitat requirements for endangered species will have precedence over threatened species. Habitat requirements for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species will take precedence over requirements for other species and habitat requirements for sensitive species will take precedence over nonsensitive species.</p> <p>Mexican Spotted Owl</p> <p>Provide three levels of habitat management: protected, restricted, and other forest and woodland types to achieve a diversity of habitat conditions across the landscape.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>Protected areas include delineated protected activity centers; mixed conifer and pine-oak forests with slopes greater than 40% where timber harvest has not occurred in the last 20 years; and reserved lands which include wilderness, research natural areas, wild and scenic rivers, and congressionally recognized wilderness study areas.</p> <p>Restricted areas include all mixed-conifer, pine-oak, and riparian-forests outside of protected areas.</p> <p>Other forest and woodland types include all ponderosa pine, spruce-fir, woodland, and aspen forests outside protected and restricted areas.</p> <p>Survey all potential spotted owl areas including protected, restricted, and other forest and woodland types within an analysis area plus the area ½ mile behind the perimeter of the proposed treatment area.</p> <p>Establish a protected activity center at all Mexican spotted owl sites located during surveys and all management territories established since 1989.</p> <p>Allow no timber harvest except for fuelwood and fire risk abatement in established protected activity centers. For protected activity centers destroyed by fire, windstorm, or other natural disaster, salvage timber harvest or declassification may be allowed after evaluation on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.</p> <p>Allow no timber harvest except for fire risk abatement in mixed conifer and pine-oak forests on slopes greater than 40% where timber harvest has not occurred in the last 20 years.</p> <p>Limit human activity in protected activity centers during the breeding season.</p> <p>In protected and restricted areas, when activities conducted in conformance with these standards and guidelines may adversely affect other threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or may conflict with other established recovery plans or conservation agreements; consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to resolve the conflict.</p> <p>Monitor changes in owl populations and habitat needed for delisting.</p> <p>A. General Guidelines</p> <p>Conduct surveys following Region 3 survey protocol.</p> <p>Breeding season is March 1 to August 31.</p> <p>B. Protected Areas Guidelines</p> <p><i>Protected Activity Centers:</i> Delineate an area of not less than 600 acres around the activity center using boundaries of known habitat polygons and/or topographic features. Written justification for boundary delineation should be provided.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>The Protected Activity Center boundary should enclose the best possible owl habitat configured in as compact a unit as possible, with the nest or activity center located near the center.</p> <p>The activity center is defined as the nest site. In the absence of a known nest, the activity center should be defined as a roost grove commonly used during breeding. In the absence of a known nest or roost, the activity center should be defined as the best nest/roost habitat.</p> <p>Protected Activity Center boundaries should not overlap.</p> <p>Submit protected activity center maps and descriptions to the recovery unit working group for comment as soon as possible after completion of surveys.</p> <p>Road or trail building in protected activity centers should be avoided but may be permitted on a case-by-case basis for pressing management reasons.</p> <p>Generally allow continuation of the level of recreation use that was occurring prior to listing.</p> <p>Require bird guides to apply for and obtain a special use permit. A condition of the permit shall be that they obtain a subpermit under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Master endangered species permit. The permit should stipulate the sites, dates, number of visits and maximum group size permissible.</p> <p>Harvest fuelwood when it can be done in such a way that effects on the owl are minimized. Manage within the following limitations to minimize effects on the owl:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retain key forest species such as oak.• Retain key habitat components such as snags and large downed logs.• Harvest conifers less than 9 inches in diameter only within those protected activity centers treated to abate fire risk as described below. <p>Treat fuel accumulations to abate fire risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Select for treatment 10% of the protected activity centers where nest sites are known in each recovery unit having high fire risk conditions. Also select another 10% of the protected activity centers where nest sites are known as a paired sample to serve as control areas.• Designate a 100-acre "no treatment" area around the known nest site of each selected protected activity center. Habitat in the no treatment area should be as similar as possible in structure and composition as that found in the activity center.

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- Use combinations of thinning trees less than 9 inches in diameter, mechanical fuel treatment and prescribed fire to abate fire risk in the remainder of the selected protected activity center outside the 100-acre "no treatment" area.
- Retain woody debris larger than 12 inches in diameter, snags, clumps of broad-leafed woody vegetation, and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches in diameter at the root collar.
- Select and treat additional protected activity centers in 10% increments if monitoring of the initial sample shows there were no negative impacts or there were negative impacts which can be mitigated by modifying treatment methods.
- Use light prescribed burns in nonselected protected activity centers on a case-by-case basis. Burning should avoid a 100-acre "no treatment" area around the activity center. Large woody debris, snags, clumps of broad-leafed woody vegetation should be retained and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches diameter at the root collar.
- Pre- and post-treatment monitoring should be conducted in all protected activity centers treated for fire risk abatement (See monitoring guidelines).

Steep Slopes (Mixed conifer and pine-oak forests outside protected activity centers with slopes greater than 40% that have not been logged within the past 20 years): No seasonal restrictions apply.

Treat fuel accumulations to abate fire risk:

- Use combinations of thinning trees less than 9 inches in diameter, mechanical fuel removal, and prescribed fire.
- Retain woody debris larger than 12 inches in diameter, snags, clumps of broad-leafed woody vegetation, and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches in diameter at the root collar.
- Pre- and post-treatment monitoring should occur within all steep slopes treated for fire risk abatement (See monitoring guidelines).

Reserved Lands (Wilderness, Research Natural Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and Congressionally Recognized Wilderness Study Areas): Allow prescribed fire where appropriate.

C. Restricted Areas Guidelines

(Mixed conifer, pine-oak, and riparian forests)

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Decision Units	Activities	Applicable Management Areas	Standards and Guidelines
			<p>Mixed Conifer and Pine-oak Forests (See glossary definition): Manage to ensure a sustained level of owl nest/roost habitat well distributed across the landscape. Create replacement owl nest/roost habitat where appropriate while providing a diversity of stand conditions across the landscape to ensure habitat for a diversity of prey species.</p>

The following table displays the minimum percentage of restricted area which should be managed to have nest/roost characteristics. The minimum mixed conifer restricted area includes 10% at 170 basal area and an additional amount of area at 150 basal area. The additional area of 150 basal area is +10% in BR-E and +15% in all other recovery units. The variables are for stand averages and are minimum threshold values and must be met simultaneously. In project design, no stands simultaneously meeting or exceeding the minimum threshold values should be reduced below the threshold values unless a district-wide or larger landscape analysis of restricted areas shows that there is a surplus of restricted area acres simultaneously meeting the threshold values. Management should be designed to create minimum threshold conditions on project areas where there is a deficit of stands simultaneously meeting minimum threshold conditions unless the district-wide or larger landscape analysis shows there is a surplus.

VARIABLE	MC ALL RU	MC BR-E RU	MC OTHER RU	PINE-OAK
Restricted Area Percent	10%	+10%	+15%	10%
Stand Averages for:				
Basal Area	170	150	150	150
18 inch + trees/ac	20	20	20	20
Oak basal area	NA	NA	NA	NA
Percent total existing stand density index by size class:				
12 - 18"	10	10	10	15
18 - 24 "	10	10	10	15
24+ "	10	10	10	15

MC - Mixed Conifer

RU - Recovery Unit

BR-E RU - Not applicable to Tonto NF

Attempt to mimic natural disturbance patterns by incorporating natural variation, such as irregular tree spacing and various patch sizes, into management prescriptions.

Maintain all species of native trees in the landscape including early seral species.

Allow natural canopy gap processes to occur, thus producing horizontal variation in stand structure.

Emphasize uneven-aged management systems. However, both even-aged and uneven-aged systems may be used where appropriate to provide variation in existing stand structure and species diversity. Existing stand conditions will determine which system is appropriate.

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Extend rotation ages for even-aged stands to greater than 200 years. Silvicultural prescriptions should explicitly state when vegetative manipulation will cease until rotation age is reached.

Save all trees greater than 24 inches dbh.

In pine-oak forests, retain existing large oaks and promote growth of additional large oaks.

Encourage prescribed and prescribed natural fire to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation. Thinning from below may be desirable or necessary before burning to reduce ladder fuels and the risk of crown fire.

Retain substantive amounts of key habitat components:

- Snags 18 inches in diameter and larger.
- Down logs over 12 inches midpoint diameter.
- Hardwoods for retention, recruitment, and replacement of large hardwoods.

Riparian Areas: Emphasize maintenance and restoration of healthy riparian ecosystems through conformance with forest plan riparian standards and guidelines. Management strategies should move degraded riparian vegetation toward good condition as soon as possible. Damage to riparian vegetation, stream banks, and channels should be prevented.

Domestic Livestock Grazing: Implement forest plan forage utilization standards and guidelines to maintain owl prey availability, maintain potential for beneficial fire while inhibiting potential destructive fire, maintain and restore riparian ecosystems, and promote development of owl habitat. Strive to attain good to excellent range conditions.

Old Growth: Except where otherwise noted, implement forest plan old growth standards and guidelines to maintain and promote development of owl habitat.

D. Other Forest and Woodland Types Guidelines

Apply ecosystem approaches to manage for landscape diversity mimicking natural disturbance patterns, incorporating natural variation in stand conditions and retaining special features such as snags and large trees, utilizing appropriate fires, and retention of existing old growth in accordance with forest plan old growth standards and guidelines.

E. Guidelines For Specific Recovery Units

Upper Gila Mountains: No special additional guidelines apply.

Basin and Range - West: Emphasize restoration of lowland riparian habitats.

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>Management activities necessary to implement the Sacramento Mountain thistle recovery plan, which may conflict with standards and guidelines for Mexican spotted owl, will take precedence and will be exempt from the conflicting Mexican spotted owl standards and guidelines.</p> <p>F. Monitoring Guidelines</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation should be collaboratively planned and coordinated with involvement from each National Forest, USFWS Ecological Services Field Office, USFWS Regional Office, USDA Forest Service Regional Office, Rocky Mountain Research Station, recovery team, and recovery unit working groups.</p> <p>Population monitoring should be a collaborative effort with participation of all appropriate resource agencies.</p> <p>Habitat monitoring of gross habitat changes should be a collaborative effort of all appropriate resource agencies.</p> <p>Habitat monitoring of treatment effects (pre- and post-treatment) should be done by the agency conducting the treatment.</p> <p>Prepare an annual monitoring and evaluation report covering all levels of monitoring done in the previous year. The annual report should be forwarded to the Regional Forester with copies provided to the recovery unit working groups, USFWS Ecological Services field offices, and the USFWS Regional Office.</p> <p><i>Rangewide:</i> Track gross changes in acres of owl habitat resulting from natural and human caused disturbances. Acreage changes in vegetation composition, structure, and density should be tracked, evaluated, and reported. Remote sensing techniques should provide an adequate level of accuracy.</p> <p>In protected and restricted areas where silvicultural or fire abatement treatments are planned, monitor treated stands pre- and post-treatment to determine changes and trajectories in fuel levels; snag basal areas; live tree basal areas; volume of down logs over 12 inches in diameter; and basal area of hardwood trees over 10 inches in diameter at the root crown.</p> <p><i>Upper Gila Mountain, Basin and Range East, and Basin and Range West Recovery Units:</i> Assist the recovery team and recovery unit working groups to establish sampling units consisting of 19 to 39 square mile quadrants randomly allocated to habitat strata. Quadrats should be defined based on ecological boundaries such as ridgelines and watersheds. Quadrat boundaries should not traverse owl territories. Twenty percent of the quadrats will be replaced each year at random.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Area</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>Using the sample quadrats, monitor the number of territorial individuals and pairs per quadrat; reproduction; apparent survival; recruitment; and age structure. Track population density both per quadrat and habitat stratum.</p>
		All Applicable Areas	<p><u>Ecosystem Management in Northern Goshawk Habitats</u></p> <p>Applicability</p> <p>The northern goshawk standards and guidelines apply to the forest woodland communities described below that are outside of Mexican spotted owl protected and restricted areas. Within Mexican spotted owl protected and restricted areas, the Mexican spotted owl standards and guidelines take precedence over the northern goshawk standards and guidelines. One or the other set of standards and guidelines apply to all forest and woodland communities but the Mexican spotted owl standards always take precedence in areas of overlap.</p> <p>Standards</p> <p>Survey the management analysis area prior to habitat modifying activities including 1/2 mile beyond the boundary.</p> <p>Establish, and delineate on a map, a post-fledgling family area that includes 6 nesting areas per pair of nesting goshawks for known nest sites, old nest sites, areas where historical data indicates goshawks have nested there in the past, and where goshawks have been repeatedly sighted over a 2 year or greater time period but no nest sites have been located. Manage for uneven-age stand conditions for live trees and retain live reserve trees, snags, downed logs, and woody debris levels throughout woodland, ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and spruce-fir forest cover types. Manage for old age trees such that as much old forest structure as possible is sustained over time across the landscape. Sustain a mosaic of vegetation densities (overstory and understory), age classes and species composition across the landscape. Provide foods and cover for goshawk prey.</p> <p>Limit human activity in nesting areas during the breeding season.</p> <p>Manage the ground surface layer to maintain satisfactory soil conditions i.e., to minimize soil compaction; and to maintain hydrologic and nutrient cycles.</p> <p>When activities conducted in conformance with these standards and guidelines may adversely affect other threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or may conflict with other established recovery plans or conservation agreements; consult with US Fish and Wildlife Service to resolve the conflict.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>Within the ranges of the Kaibab pincushion cactus, <i>Pediocactus paradinei</i>, the Arizona leatherflower, <i>Clematis hirsutissima arizonica</i>, management activities needed for the conservation of these two species that may conflict with northern goshawk standards and guidelines will be exempt from the conflicting northern goshawk standards and guidelines until conservation strategies or recovery plans (if listed) are developed for the two species.</p> <p>General Guidelines</p> <p>Emphasize maintenance and restoration of healthy riparian ecosystems through conformance with Forest Plan riparian standards and guidelines. Management strategies should restore degraded riparian areas to good condition as soon as possible. Damage to riparian vegetation, stream banks, and channels should be prevented.</p> <p>Refer to USDA Forest Service General Technical Report RM-217 entitled "Management Recommendations for the Northern Goshawk in the Southwestern United States" for scientific information on goshawk ecology and management which provide the basis for the management guidelines. Supplemental information on goshawk ecology and management may be found in "The Northern Goshawk: Ecology and Management" published by the Cooper Ornithological Society as Studies in Avian Biology No. 16. In woodland forest cover types, use empirical data to determine desired habitat conditions.</p> <p>Inventory Guidelines</p> <p>Use the R3 survey protocol to get complete coverage of the management analysis area (Kennedy and Stahlecker 1993, as modified by Joy, Reynolds, and Leslie 1994). Management analysis areas should be entire ecosystem management areas if possible.</p> <p>Complete at least 1 year of survey, but 2 years of survey should be done to verify questionable sightings, unconfirmed nest sites, etc. If nesting goshawks are found during the first year of inventory, a second year of inventory is not needed in that territory.</p> <p>For areas where complete inventories cannot be done, use aerial photographs to locate vegetative structural stages (VSS) 4-6 within the project area and inventory just those sites for goshawk nest areas using R3 inventory protocol. All uninventoried areas (VSS 1-3) will be managed to post-fledgling family area (PFA) specifications while in that stage. If while using this inventory option evidence suggests goshawks are present (such as finding plucking perches or molted goshawk feathers), conduct a complete inventory as outlined above.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>If forests have goshawks commonly nesting in stands classified as VSS 1-3, use the complete inventory methods for those areas. There may be situations where an area is classified as a VSS 3, based on the predominant VSS class, but in actuality a combination of VSS 4 & 5 predominate the area. For those situations, use the complete inventory methods.</p>
			<p>Home Range Establishment Guidelines</p> <p>Post-fledgling family areas (PFA) will be approximately 600 acres in size. Post-fledgling family areas will include the nest sites and consist of the habitat most likely to be used by the fledglings during their early development.</p> <p>Establish a minimum of 3 nest areas and 3 replacement nest areas per post-fledgling family area. The nest areas and replacement nest areas should be approximately 30 acres in size. A minimum total of 180 acres of nest areas should be identified within each post-fledgling family area.</p> <p>Nest site selection will be based first on using active nest sites followed by the most recently used historical nest areas. When possible, all historical nest areas should be maintained.</p> <p>Manage for nest replacement sites to attain sufficient quality and size to replace the three suitable nest sites.</p>
			<p>Management Scale Guidelines</p> <p>Distribution of habitat structures (tree size and age classes, tree groups of different densities, snags, dead and down woody material, etc) should be evaluated at the ecosystem management area level, at the mid-scale such as drainage, and at the small scale site.</p>
			<p>Vegetation Management Guidelines</p> <p><i>Landscapes Outside Goshawk Post-fledgling Family Areas</i></p> <p>General: The distribution of vegetation structural stages for ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and spruce-fir forests is 10% grass/forb/shrub (VSS 1), 10% seedling-sapling (VSS 2), 20% young forest (VSS 3), 20% mid-aged forest (VSS 4), 20% mature forest (VSS 5), 20% old forest (VSS 6). NOTE: The specified percentages are a guide and actual percentages are expected to vary + or - up to 3%.</p> <p>The distribution of VSS, tree density, and tree age are a product of site quality in the ecosystem management area. Use site quality to guide in the distribution of VSS, tree density and tree ages. Use site quality to identify and manage dispersal PFA and nest habitat at 2 to 2.5 mile spacing across the landscape.</p> <p>Snags are 18" or larger dbh and 30 feet or larger in height, downed logs are 12 inches in diameter and at least 8 feet long, woody debris is 3 inches or larger on the forest floor, canopy cover is measured with vertical crown projection on average across the landscape.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>The order of preferred treatment for woody debris is: 1) prescribed burning, 2) lopping & scattering, 3) hand piling or machine grapple piling, and 4) dozer piling.</p> <p>Canopy Cover: Canopy cover guidelines apply only to mid-aged to old forest structural stages (VSS 4, VSS 5, and VSS 6) and not to grass/forb/shrub to young forest structural stages (VSS 1, VSS 2, and VSS 3).</p> <p>Spruce-Fir: Canopy cover for mid-aged forest (VSS 4) should average 1/3 60% and 2/3 40%, mature forest (VSS 5) should average 60+%, and old forest (VSS 6) should average 60+%. Maximum opening size is 1 acre with a maximum width of 125 feet. Provide two groups of reserve trees per acre with 6 trees per group when opening size exceeds 0.5. Leave at least 3 snags, 5 downed logs, and 10-15 tons of woody debris per acre.</p> <p>Mixed Conifer: Canopy cover for mid-aged forest (VSS 4) should average 1/3 60+% and 2/3 40+%, mature forest (VSS 5) should average 50+%, and old forest (VSS 6) should average 60+%. Maximum opening size is up to 4 acres with a maximum width of up to 200 feet. Retain one group of reserve trees per acre of 3-5 trees per group for openings greater than 1 acre in size. Leave at least 3 snags, 5 downed logs, and 10-15 tons of woody debris per acre.</p> <p>Ponderosa Pine: Canopy cover for mid-aged forest (VSS 4) should average 40+%, mature forest (VSS 5) should average 40+%, and old forest (VSS 6) should average 40+%. Opening size is up to 4 acres with a maximum width of up to 200 feet. One group of reserve trees, 3-5 trees per group, will be left if the opening is greater than an acre in size. Leave at least 2 snags per acre, 3 downed logs per acre, and 5-7 tons of woody debris per acre.</p> <p>Woodland: Manage for uneven age conditions to sustain a mosaic of vegetation densities (overstory and understory), age classes, and species composition well distributed across the landscape. Provide for reserve trees, snags, and down woody debris.</p> <p><i>Within Post-fledgling Family Areas</i></p> <p>General: Provide for a healthy sustainable forest environment for the post-fledgling family needs of goshawks. The principle difference between "within the post-fledgling family area" and "outside the post-fledgling family area" is the higher canopy cover within the post-fledgling family area and smaller opening size within the post-fledgling family area. Vegetative structural stage distribution and structural conditions are the same within and outside the post-fledgling family area.</p> <p>Spruce-Fir: Canopy cover for mid-aged forest (VSS 4) should average 60+% and for mature (VSS 5) and old forest (VSS 6) should average 70+%.</p> <p>Mixed Conifer: Canopy cover for mid-aged (VSS 4) to old forest (VSS 6) should average 60+%.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>Ponderosa Pine: Canopy cover for mid-aged forest (VSS 4) should average 1/3 60+% and 2/3 50+%. Mature (VSS 5) and old forest (VSS 6) should average 50+%.</p> <p>Woodland: Maintain existing canopy cover levels.</p> <p><i>Within Nesting Areas</i></p> <p>General: Provide unique nesting habitat conditions for goshawks. Important features include trees of mature to old age with high canopy cover.</p> <p>The structure of the vegetation within nest areas is associated with the forest type, and tree age, size, and density, and the developmental history of the stand. Table 5 of RM-217 presents attributes required for goshawks on locations with "low" and "high" site productivity.</p> <p>Preferred treatments to maintain the desired structure are to thin from below with non-uniform spacing and use of hand tools and fire to reduce fuel loads. Lopping and scattering of thinning debris is preferred if prescribed fire cannot be used. Piling of debris should be limited. When necessary, hand piling should be used to minimize compaction within piles and to minimize displacement and destruction of the forest floor and the herbaceous layer. Do not grapple or dozer pile debris. Manage road densities at the lowest level possible to minimize disturbance in the nest area. Use small, permanent skid trails in lieu of roads for timber harvesting.</p> <p>Spruce-fir, Mixed Conifer and Ponderosa Pine Cover Types: The nesting area contains only mature to old forest (VSS 5 & 6) having a canopy cover (measured vertically) between 50-70% with mid-aged VSS 6 trees 200-300 years old. Non-uniform spacing of trees and clumpiness is desirable.</p> <p>Woodland: Maintain existing canopy cover levels.</p> <p>Human Disturbance Guidelines</p> <p>Limit human activities in or near nest sites and post-fledgling family areas during the breeding season so that goshawk reproductive success is not affected by human activities.</p> <p>The breeding season extends from March 1 through September 30.</p> <p>Low intensity ground fires are allowed at any time in all forested cover types, but high intensity crown fires are not acceptable in the post-fledgling family area or nest areas. Avoid burning the entire home range of a goshawk pair in a single year. For fires planned in the occupied nest area, a fire management plan should be prepared. The fire management plan should minimize the risk of goshawk abandonment while low intensity ground fire burns in the nesting area. Prescribed fire within nesting areas should be planned to move with prevailing winds away from the nest tree to minimize smoke and risk of crown fire developing and driving the adults off or consuming the nest tree.</p>

Management Prescriptions

<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			Ground Surface Layer Guidelines (All forested cover types) Manage road densities at the lowest level possible. Where timber harvesting has been prescribed to achieve desired forest condition, use small skid trails in lieu of roads. Piling of debris should be limited. When necessary, hand or grapple piling should be used to minimize soil compaction within piles and to minimize forest floor and herbaceous layer displacement and destruction. Limit dozer use for piling or scattering of logging debris so that the forest floor and herbaceous layer is not displaced or destroyed. Analyze all pronghorn and big horn sheep habitat and continue stocking program in suitable areas in cooperation with Region 6 of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

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Management Prescriptions

<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
		All Riparian Areas	<p>Coordinate with range to achieve utilization in the riparian areas that will not exceed 20% of the current annual growth by volume of woody species.</p> <p>Coordinate with range to achieve at least 80% of the potential riparian overstory crown coverage.</p> <p>Coordinate with range to achieve at least 50% of the cottonwood-willow and mixed broadleaf acres in structural Type 1 by 2030.</p> <p>Rehabilitate at least 80% of the potential shrub cover in riparian areas through the use of appropriate grazing systems and methods.</p>
DU 10, 11, 12		All	<p>Identify and delineate the home range of all bald eagle breeding areas. Document and correct any resource conflicts and disturbances to bald eagles and their habitat. During portions of any year that a bald eagle's nest site is active, an appropriate area of land surrounding the nest will be closed to public entry if such closure is necessary.</p> <p>Manage the warm water non-game type streams to support Gila sucker and longfin dace.</p> <p>Any surface or vegetation disturbing projects in riparian areas will be coordinated and will specify protection or rehabilitation of riparian-dependent resources. For example, the required planting of large cottonwood poles in 7 Mile Wash by Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT).</p>
		All	<p>Conduct surveys and write reports on allotments scheduled for re-analysis and possible stocking adjustments. Allow for forage to maximize Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species, management indicator species, and emphasis harvest species.</p>
		All	<p>Monitor habitat diversity, animal species composition and density and management indicator species as per the Forest Monitoring Plan (Chapter 5).</p>
DU 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 61	C01, C03, C04, C05, C06, C09, C10, C12	All	<p>Using Desired Future Condition as a guide, optimize wildlife outputs in all management units by coordination of other resource activities and direct habitat improvement projects. The goal will be to meet projected future demand for consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife use.</p>
DU 14, 15, 16	C03	All Riparian Areas	<p>Rehabilitate and maintain, through improved management practices, mixed broadleaf riparian to achieve 80% of the potential overstory crown coverage. Natural regeneration is anticipated to achieve most of this goal. Artificial regeneration may be necessary in some areas.</p> <p>Re-establish riparian vegetation in severely degraded but potentially productive riparian areas. Natural regeneration is anticipated to achieve this goal, but artificial regeneration may be necessary in some areas.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			Rehabilitate cottonwood willow Type 11 to achieve conversion to Type 1 by the year 2030. Natural regeneration is anticipated to achieve most of this goal, but artificial regeneration may be necessary in some areas.
DU 14, 15, 16, 61	C04	All	Provide wildlife access and escape ramps on all livestock and wildlife water developments.
	C04	All	Provide a minimum of four waters per section in small game and one water per section in big game key areas.
DU 11	C09	All	Maintain all habitat improvements to condition Level 2 on a five-year schedule.
		All	Bat roosts and other sensitive biological resources within caves will be managed using all appropriate means identified in the Cave Implementation Plan.
DU 10, 12	C12	All	Continue close coordination with State and other federal agencies for the benefit of plant and animal species.
		All	Cooperate and consult with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State universities, professional societies, and various conservation organizations regarding proposals and programs concerned with management of wildlife habitat.
		All	Maximize coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding federal T&E plant and animal species and their habitats.
		All	Maximize coordination with the Arizona Game and Fish Department regarding State listed species and their habitats.
		All	Initiate informal or formal consultation, as required by the Endangered Species Act, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on all actions that effect T&E plant and animal species.
		All	Survey, study and assess the status of candidate species on a priority basis. Identify, document and correct any management conflicts to the species or their habitats.
DU 16	D01	All	Allotment analysis, to an appropriate level, on 10 year cycles in Level D management areas, 15-25 years for extensive Levels B & C.

Grazing Management

Forage use by grazing ungulates will be maintained at or above a condition which assures recovery and continued existence of threatened and endangered species.

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Decision Units	Activities	Applicable Management Area	Standards and Guidelines
			<p>Guidelines</p> <p>Identify key ungulate forage monitoring areas. These key areas will normally be 1/4 to 1 mile from water, located on productive soils on level to intermediate slopes, and be readily accessible for grazing. Size of the key forage monitoring areas could be 20 to 500 acres. In some situations such as high mountain meadows with perennial streams, key areas may be closer than 1/4 mile from water and less than 20 acres. Within key forage monitoring areas, select appropriate key species to monitor average allowable use.</p>

Allowable Use Guide (Percent) By Range Condition and Management Strategy *

Range Condition**	Continuous Season-long Use	Defer 1 Year in 2	Defer 1 Year in 3	Defer 2 Years in 3	Rest 1 Year in 2	Rest 1 Year in 3	Rest 2 Years in 3	Rest Over 2 Years in 3
Very Poor	0	10	5	15	15	10	20	25
Poor	10	20	15	20	20	15	30	35
Fair	20	25	20	30	30	25	40	45
Good	30	35	35	35	35	35	45	50
Excellent	30	35	35	35	35	35	45	50

* Site-specific data may show that the numbers in this table are substantially high or low. These numbers are purposefully conservative to assure protection in the event that site-specific data is not available.

** Range Condition as evaluated and ranked by the Forest Service is a subjective expression of the status or health of the vegetation and soil relative to their combined potential to produce a sound and stable biotic community. Soundness and stability are evaluated relative to a standard that encompasses the composition, density, and vigor of the vegetation and physical characteristics of the soil.

In consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, develop site-specific forage use levels. In the event that site-specific information is not available, average key species forage utilization in key forage monitoring areas by domestic livestock and wildlife should not exceed levels in the above table during the forage growing season.

The above table is based on composition and climatic conditions typical of sites below the Mogollon Rim. On sites with higher precipitation and vegetation similar to sites above the Mogollon Rim, allowable use for ranges in poor to excellent condition under deferment or rest strategies may be increased by 5%. The guidelines established in the above table are applicable only during the growing season for the identified key species with-in key areas. Allowable use for key forage species during the dormant season is not covered in the above table. These guidelines are to be applied in the absence of more specific guidelines currently established through site specific NEPA analysis for individual allotments.

Guidelines for allowable use for specific allotment(s) management or for grazing strategies not covered in the above table will vary on a site-specific basis when determined through the NEPA process.

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			Allowable use guidelines may be adjusted through the land management planning revision or amendment process. Guidelines established through this process to meet specific ecosystem objectives, will also employ the key species and key area concept and will be monitored in this manner.
	D02	All	Negotiated agreements with permittees is the primary means for achieving needed permit adjustments. Range analyses and Production Utilization studies will be used to document needed adjustments especially when negotiated agreements cannot be reached. Manage riparian areas to the level needed to provide protection and improvement.
		All	General administration of grazing permits, including annual validations, annual permittee plans, permit waivers, and permit modifications.

Management Prescriptions

<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
		All	Specific allotment goals and objectives, utilization guidelines, grazing systems or methods, structural and non-structural improvement needs, and specific monitoring methods will be documented in allotment management plans for each allotment. Specific objectives documented in allotment management plans will be attainable within a period of 5 to 10 years. Allotment management plans will be updated revised, or amended on 5 to 10 year increments to ensure they accurately reflect allotment goals and objectives and the method of grazing management being employed on the allotments. Prescribed monitoring will be sufficient to determine if allotment management objectives are being met at a reasonable level. If it is determined through allotment monitoring that objectives are not being achieved, necessary changes in permitted numbers and/or management will then be made. In extreme cases, exclusion of livestock by fencing may be necessary.
DU 34	D03, E04, E05, P34, P35	All	Pesticide proposals will be handled through additional environmental analysis and documentation to ensure project objectivity and public safety.
DU 16	D06	All	Assure permittee maintenance of existing structural improvements on an annual basis to assure full life of project.
DU 34	E06, E07, J02, L04, F01	All	<p>Where possible, locate roads on natural benches, ridges, flat slopes near ridges or valley bottoms, and away from stream channels.</p> <p>Roads should be located on well-drained and stable ground, avoiding seeps and other unstable areas.</p> <p>Stream crossing approaches should avoid steep pitches and grades in order to prevent sedimentation.</p> <p>Where channel crossings are necessary, select an area where the channel is straight and cross the channel at right angles.</p> <p>In streams inhabited by fish, structures need to provide for fish passage. In addition, structures containing natural stream bottoms are preferred over culverts.</p> <p>Reduce road dimensions to that which will adequately fulfill anticipated needs and avoid large road cuts and fills.</p> <p>An interdisciplinary (I.D.) team will evaluate the need for buffer strips between proposed roads and adjacent water bodies. Where a buffer strip is deemed necessary, the I.D. team will recommend the width of strip needed to achieve adequate protection of aquatic and riparian resources.</p> <p>Avoid channel changes or disturbance of stream channels and minimize impacts to riparian vegetation.</p> <p>Provide necessary water drainage structures as road construction proceeds.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>Road runoff should not be discharged directly into streams, but should be diverted over stable vegetated areas or riprap.</p> <p>Minimize excavation with a balanced earthwork design; the area of cut slopes should be minimized in order to reduce erosion and slope instability.</p> <p>Construction should take place only when soil conditions are not too wet.</p> <p>Large cut and fill slopes should be stabilized.</p> <p>Bridges and culverts should be installed in a way that prevents stream sedimentation and channel changes and provides for fish migration.</p>
DU 34	F01	All	<p>Minimize impacts on soil and water resources from all ground disturbing activities.</p> <p>When developing water for National Forest purposes, preference should be given to those types of developments that waste the least amount of water.</p> <p>Manage vegetation to achieve satisfactory or better watershed conditions.</p>
DU 34	F01	All	<p>Administer portions of three non-point source water pollution plans as defined in Section 208 of Public Law 92-500.</p> <p>As needed, prepare water resource improvement plans for high priority watersheds and problem areas.</p>
DU 34	F02	All	<p>Inventory watershed condition. This will include an assessment of the Forest once per decade, and smaller areas on an as needed basis.</p> <p>Prepare flood hazard analyses on proposed projects in flood prone areas per Executive Order 11988.</p> <p>Mitigate the adverse effects of planned activities on the soil and water resources through the use of Best Management Practices.</p>
	F03	All	<p>Water quality will be monitored in key locations to aid in the identification and correction of resource problems.</p>
	F04	All	<p>Prepare for the Gila River Adjudication by the identification and quantification of all existing uses and future needs that will be claimed under State Statutes and the Federal Reservations Doctrine.</p>
		All	<p>Resolve water right disputes by participating in State administrative hearings, negotiation, litigation, etc.</p>
		All	<p>Obtain the water rights needed to construct future water developments and maintain instream flows. This includes coordination with the Department of Water Resources, Salt River Project and others.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
		All	Comply with State of Arizona's Ground Water Management Act.
DU 33, 63	F05	All	Water resource improvement projects to be implemented as needed.
DU 35, 36	G01	All	Process notices of intent and operating plans as needed.
		All	Conduct mineral examinations and initiate requests for contest hearings as needed.
DU 36	G02	All	Potential impacts to cave resources will be considered in reviewing all proposed Notices of Intent/Plans of Operation. Appropriate land will be withdrawn from mineral entry when necessary to provide cave protection.
		All	Respond to oil and gas Lease applications including EA if needed.
	G02, G04, G05, G06	All	Recommend no surface occupancy to BLM for leasing when the NEPA process indicates areas to be so sensitive as to preclude surface disturbance. Incorporate appropriate stipulations identified in the Southwestern Regional Guide.
	G07	All	Prepare and administer small sales of mineral materials from previously designated areas. Respond to requests for large quantities of common variety mineral materials through the NEPA process, advertise sale (if appropriate), and permit administration.
	G08	All	Protect Forest Service surface rights as needed, including preparation of EA/EIS, title searches, litigation, etc.
	G09	All	Annual reclamation of mineral areas to protect the public and restoration of resource damage and public safety hazards as needed. Accomplish all backlog work as funding is made available.
DU 41	J01	All	Electronic sites will be managed to the following standards: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximize joint use of existing facilities. 2. Lot plans as presently established will be eliminated. Sites allocated on a total required facility basis. 3. Maintenance of individual site roads and trails will be carried out jointly through cooperative maintenance proportionate payments to the amount of use or will be maintained by the users. 4. Clearing of vegetation will be limited to that which poses a hazard to facilities and operational efficiency. 5. Commercial broadcasting, and constant carriers, will be allowed where compatible. These sites must be physically separated by at least one mile from sites designated for two-way user, i.e., land mobile and microwave. Any potential electromagnetic interference must be resolved before construction can proceed. Microwave corridors will be protected.

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			<p>6. VHF transmitters will be permitted if frequencies are compatible with those of previous users. (Authorize only specified frequencies and not wide range bands on 2700-10 Technical Data Sheets.)</p> <p>7. All new and replacement towers must be self-supporting.</p> <p>8. Antennas and towers will be below the height for which the FAA requires lights because of the interference with the fire lookout tower and aesthetics.</p> <p>9. All utility lines serving the site will be placed underground for new sites where VQO would be degraded by conventional above ground construction. Above ground utilities within existing sites will be placed below ground at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>10. Any prospective permittee desiring a site shall furnish detailed plans of building and antenna support structure to the District Ranger for approval. All towers will meet Electronic Industries Association standard RS-222-C, structural standards for steel antenna towers. These plans will show the relationship of the proposed building and antenna to other facilities in the area, along with manufacturer's specifications for equipment to be used.</p> <p>11. All buildings will be colored to blend with the background.</p>
DU 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44	J01	All	<p>Respond to applications for new permits, amendments, documents and leases within 30 days of receipt. Administer all existing permits.</p> <p>Authorizations for special uses may be issued to qualified applicants when the proposed use (a) fulfills a demonstrated special need without unduly infringing on the use by the general public, (b) is in accordance with an approved implementation plan (where called for) and will not cause adverse impacts on the National Forest and its resources which cannot be fully mitigated, (c) does not serve a function that can be provided by private enterprise off National Forest lands, and (d) is complementary to Forest Service and Management Area objectives, programs, and purposes.</p>
DU 41	J01	All	<p>When compatible with identified resource values, research activity within caves will be permitted.</p>
		1F, 2D, 2F, 3I, 5D, 5G, 6J	<p>Efforts will be made to consolidate new electronic site proposals on currently approved sites. Recommendations to the Regional Forester on new electronic site classifications will be made after a comprehensive environmental analysis indicates such occupancy will not compromise other National Forest management objectives.</p>
		All	<p>Requests for utility corridors will be coordinated to locate needed facilities within existing corridors where feasible. Design and construction practices will meet the standards defined in National Forest Landscape Management Volume 2, Chapter 2, U.S.D.A. Handbook 478.</p>

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
			Authorize new utility corridors only after full compliance with the NEPA process.
	J02	All	Respond to requests for rights-of-way grants for roads and trails.
	J03	All	Administer existing Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licenses and permits.
	J04	All	Review mineral withdrawal needs in Fiscal Year 1988.
		All	Obtain mineral withdrawals for locatable minerals and appropriate surface protection stipulations for leasable minerals on all proposed developed recreation sites and administrative sites two years ahead of construction.
	J05	All	Maintain land status records by updating annually.
	J06	All	Locate and post all land line needed for outputs two-to-three years in advance of resource output production years.
	J07	All	Update land line location atlas as additional corners are found and boundary is posted.
			Maintain existing land lines, corners, and accessories.
	J10	All	Continue to take action on occupancy trespass.
	J11, J12	All	Review land classification and determine the need for land adjustment to meet management objectives of providing for community expansion and logical boundary adjustments.
			Prohibit encumbrances on lands identified for exchange, which will reduce future disposal opportunities.
	J13, J14, J15	All	Respond to land exchange proposals as presented. Seek to acquire all private holdings within designated wilderness and other lands where resource management objectives can best be met by public ownership.
	J18	All	Acquire rights-of-way as needed to meet resource outputs or resolve legal status deficiencies.
	J29	All	Initiate and complete evaluation of upper Tonto Creek and East Verde for Wild and Scenic River designation as directed by Congress.
DU 46	K01	All	Soil Terrestrial Ecosystem Surveys are conducted as required by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. Work is to be conducted progressively to ensure a quality data base for Forest-wide multiple use management. Emphasis may be placed on specific work areas or management needs when personnel and funding are adequate.
	K03	All	Lands which require erosion control measures will be identified, mapped, and cataloged.
DU 46, 62	K05, K06	All	Implement and maintain soil resource improvement projects as needed.

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
DU 48, 51	L02	All	Roads needed for private land access, special uses, or mineral activities will be built and maintained by the permittee to minimum standards for the intended use on permanent locations, and closed, drained, and revegetated after use.
	L02, L03, L04, L05		Reconstruct arterial roads as needed to provide for public safety.
	L06, L07, L08, L09, L10, L11, L12, L13, L16, L17, L18	Same as above	New roads will be designed and constructed by the Forest Service only as determined necessary by transportation planning.
	L19	All	Maintain roads to provide for public safety commodity haul, and resource protection in accordance with FSM 7700 and 7730. Negotiate with local governments to finance their share of the road maintenance activity on roads not needed for Forest administration.
DU 49, 50	L20	All	Forest-wide review of trail transportation planning to identify existing conditions and need for additional trails. Develop Trail Transportation Action Plan.
	L23	All	Maintain all trails with numbers from 500 to 999 to Maintenance Level 1 (except those which are to be closed or are under permit) after all other trails have been maintained to their called-for maintenance level.
DU 56	P01, P02, P03, P04, P05, P06, P07, P10, F05, K05	All	On all Class E or bigger fires, an Interdisciplinary (ID) team will determine the need for fire rehabilitation and resource protection, including the option for assigning a Burned Area Rehabilitation Team (BAR Team).
	P08, P09	All Riparian Areas and Sonoran Desert	Wildland Fires starting within these analysis areas will receive appropriate Management response. If the initial response is no longer consistent with fire management direction, or is expected to exceed the initial action, the fire must be considered an escaped fire, and a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) must be prepared and implemented. Suppression strategy on fires which threaten Riparian areas or Sonoran Desert from the outside will utilize tactics that minimize damage within these areas.
	P08, P09	1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6A, 6G, 6H, 6I	Wildland Fires occurring in these areas will receive an appropriate management response based on previous, current and projected climatological, and existing fuel conditions. Additional considerations for seasonal differences and fire management resources availability will be addressed. All suppression decisions will be through the development of a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA). All suppression efforts will emphasize minimum impact strategies. Use of mechanized equipment for fireline construction is discouraged. Where use is necessary, rehabilitation will be implemented.
	P15	All Riparian Areas and Sonoran Desert	Prescribed Fire may only be used to achieve the objectives of allowing fires to play their natural ecological roles and to reduce unnatural fuel hazards.

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Consideration should be given the following in development of the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA).

1. **Cost containment: Fires are suppressed at minimum cost, considering firefighter and public safety, benefits, and values to be protected, consistent with resource objectives.**
2. Can the fire be contained within established parameters?
3. Effects on the environment:
 - a. Air quality/smoke.
 - b. Noise/motorized equipment and helicopter use.
 - c. Visual/burned area vs. recreational use - intrusion of suppression forces.
 - d. Water quality/downstream contamination.
 - e. T&E
 - f. Flood control
4. Social acceptance:
 - a. **Burn area size.**
 - b. **Differences in suppression action between wilderness/non-wilderness.**
 - c. **Differences in suppression or monitoring.**
 - d. **Media**
 - e. **Political**
5. **Economic**
 - A. **Infrastructure**
 - B. **Residential and Commercial Property**
 - C. **Finance**
6. **Cultural and Historical**
7. Commitment of Resources

Will suppression action on this fire unreasonably impair our ability to respond to other needs regionally and/or nationally?

If the initial response is no longer consistent with fire management direction, or is anticipated to become inappropriate, the fire must be considered a **Wildland Fire** and a **WFSA must be** prepared and implemented.

8. **Safety**
 - A. **Firefighter**
 - B. **Public**
 - C. **Aviation**

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
DU 56	P16	All	<p>2. Can the fire be contained within established parameters?</p> <p>3. Effects on the environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality/smoke. Noise/motorized equipment and helicopter use. Visual/burned area vs. recreational use - intrusion of suppression forces. Water quality/downstream contamination. <p>4. Social acceptance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Will size of burned area that results be accepted socially? Will the public accept the difference in suppression action within the wilderness vs. outside the wilderness? If direct attack is selected, will the public accept that? If appropriate indirect attack or monitoring is selected, will the public accept that? <p>5. Commitment of Resources:</p> <p>Will suppression action on this fire unreasonably impair our ability to respond to other needs regionally and/or nationally?</p> <p>If the initial response is no longer consistent with fire management direction, or is anticipated to become inappropriate, the fire must be considered an escaped fire and an Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) prepared and implemented.</p> <p>Management activities will be planned so that air quality will equal to or better than that required by applicable federal, State, and local standards or regulations.</p> <p>Forest activities, primarily prescribed burning, will be conducted within Arizona State Air Quality standards which require less air pollution than the following baseline quantities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 24-hour secondary (non-health) standard – 150 micrograms per cubic meter. 24-hour primary (health) standard – 260 micrograms per cubic meter. Annual/standard – 75 micrograms per cubic meter.

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<u>Decision Units</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Applicable Management Areas</u>	<u>Standards and Guidelines</u>
	P16	1A, 1B, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 5A, 6A, 6B, except those portions that were not designated wilderness when the Clean Air Act amendments were passed in 1977.	Maintain high quality visual conditions. The form, line, texture and color of characteristic landscapes will be clearly distinguishable when viewed as "middle ground" (per the VQO system). Ecosystems and cultural resources will remain unmodified by air pollutants.
	P16	1A, 1B, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 5A, 6A, 6B	Perform in-depth review of Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit applications, to determine the potential effect that increased emissions from the involved major stationary source(s) would have on Air Quality Related Values (AQRV's) on the Superstition, Mazatzal, and/or Sierra Ancha Class 1 areas.
DU 58	P24	All	Maintain Forest law enforcement O&M Plan. Provide for at least one Level IV Investigator at each Ranger District.
	P25	All	Maintain cooperative law enforcement agreements and increasing funding levels with Gila, Maricopa, Pinal, and Yavapai Counties. All Tonto National Forest Special Orders in effect on date of Forest Plan implementation will remain in effect until modified or rescinded. Increase level of close coordination between Forest Service and other agency law enforcement officers.
	P27	All	Continue search and rescue cooperatively with County Sheriffs.
DU 56	P34, 39	All	Important Forest insects and diseases will be monitored on an annual basis. Where conditions indicate an impending build-up or outbreak is imminent, an evaluation will be conducted in order to formulate management alternatives to reduce loss to an acceptable level. . When pesticides are used, project plans will contain appropriate and necessary monitoring procedures and mitigation measures
	T02	All	Staffing to process minimum business management needs and provide support to line officers for decision-making. Add support staffs as needed to efficiently handle an intensive level of resource management.
DU 2, 3, 12, 13, 16	A02, A03, C01, D02	All	Monitor implementation of management prescriptions as defined in Monitoring Plan, Chapter 5.