MANAGEMENT AREA 11 (14,578 acres) - SEMI-PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED RECREATION AREAS

1. Description

Management Area 11 consists of portions of, and lands adjacent to the former Glacier Mountain roadless area. This area is located in the eastern part of the Malheur National Forest about 11 miles southeast of Prairie City, Oregon. Approximately three-quarters of the area is within Baker County and one-quarter is in Grant County, Oregon. This area runs along the west side of the headwaters of the North Fork Malheur River and includes several tributaries to this system. The north and west portions of the area include the Rail and Deardorff Creek drainages, which are tributaries to the mainstem of the John Day River.

During the summer of 1989, approximately 10,090 acres of this area burned due to multiple fires ignited by lightning. Due to heavy fuel accumulations and drought conditions, most of these acres burned with high fire intensities.

The high-elevation ridges support subalpine vegetation including subalpine fir, lodgepole pine, alpine sagebrush, and elk sedge. The northeastern portion of the area consists primarily of lodgepole pine which regenerated after the Big Cow Burn of 1939. The area is 95% forested and supports primarily Douglas-fir, white fir, larch, and lodgepole pine. Ground vegetation includes huckleberry, pinegrass, elk sedge, and Columbia brome. Riparian areas contain some meadow vegetation and riparian shrub species.

2. Goals

Protect, enhance, and maintain the natural beauty and character of the undeveloped areas through effective visitor use and resource management. Manage to provide a wide range of semiprimitive motorized recreation opportunities while protecting existing environmental quality. Provide a moderate probability of experiencing isolation from sites and sounds of humans and to test one's self reliance and independence in an environment offering challenge and risk.

3. Standards

RESOURCE ELEMENT	STANDARDS
	The Forest-wide management direction included in Chapter IV, Section E, of this Plan applies to this management area except where superseded by the following standards:
Recreation	1. Manage dispersed recreation for semiprimitive motorized recreation. Cross-country travel is permitted, but motorized use may be restricted to designated routes if unacceptable resource damage occurs. Limit motorized use to designated roads and trails in the Glacier Mountain area.
	2. Manage developed recreation for development Level 1 and Level 2 facilities.
	3. Provide cross-country skiing opportunities.
	4. Consider construction of winter shelters/huts.

Visuals

5. Apply a visual quality objective of foreground retention (see Management Area 14, Standard No. 17).

Fish and Wildlife

6. Implement fish and wildlife improvement/maintenance projects to meet the objectives of the semiprimitive motorized recreation opportunity spectrum class.

7. Maintain dead and defective tree habitat capable of supporting 80-100% of the potential population of the management indicator species for primary excavators.

Range

8. Manage existing grazing allotments in accordance with Forest-wide Standards.

9. Restrict livestock improvements to those that are compatible with the semiprimitive motorized recreation opportunity spectrum class. All improvements will be cost efficient.

Timber

10. Exclude scheduled timber harvest. Lands are classified as "unsuitable" for timber management.

Minerals

11. Provide access for exploration and development of locatable and leasable mineral resources. However, allow new road construction only where a road is necessary for the next logical developmental stage of the mineral resource, and where other means of access (such as by helicopter, all-terrain vehicle, or pack animal) would be infeasible or unreasonable. Roads will be constructed to the minimum standards suitable for the proposed use, and will be obliterated to the extent feasible after completion of activities.

Facilities

12. Manage roads and trails to ensure that the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) goals, objectives, and criteria setting for this management area are met. Take actions necessary to maintain an appropriate setting.

Roads

13. Maintain existing roads to accommodate high-clearance, four-wheel, and other off-road vehicles.

14. Exclude new road construction except for mineral access (see above.)

Trails

15. Maintain existing trails. Construct and reconstruct trails to be consistent with management area objectives, accommodate increased use, ensure public safety, and reduce environmental damage.

Utility Corridors

16. Manage this area as a Category 1 Avoidance area for the location of utility corridors.

Protection

Residue Management

17. Use prescribed fire from planned ignitions to achieve resource management objectives. Use prescribed fire, when based on site-specific analysis, from natural ignitions (i.e., lightning) to allow fire to play its natural ecological role.

Insects and Disease

18. Allow endemic infestation to occur. Treat epidemics that threaten semiprimitive motorized values or adjacent lands.

4. Schedule of Management Practices

MANAGEMENT AREA 11 - SCHEDULE OF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Management Practice	Activity Code	Total Planned for Decade (1990-1999)
FACILITIES		
Trail Construction/Reconstruction	AT22	28.0 Miles
Trailhead Construction	AT22	2 Sites