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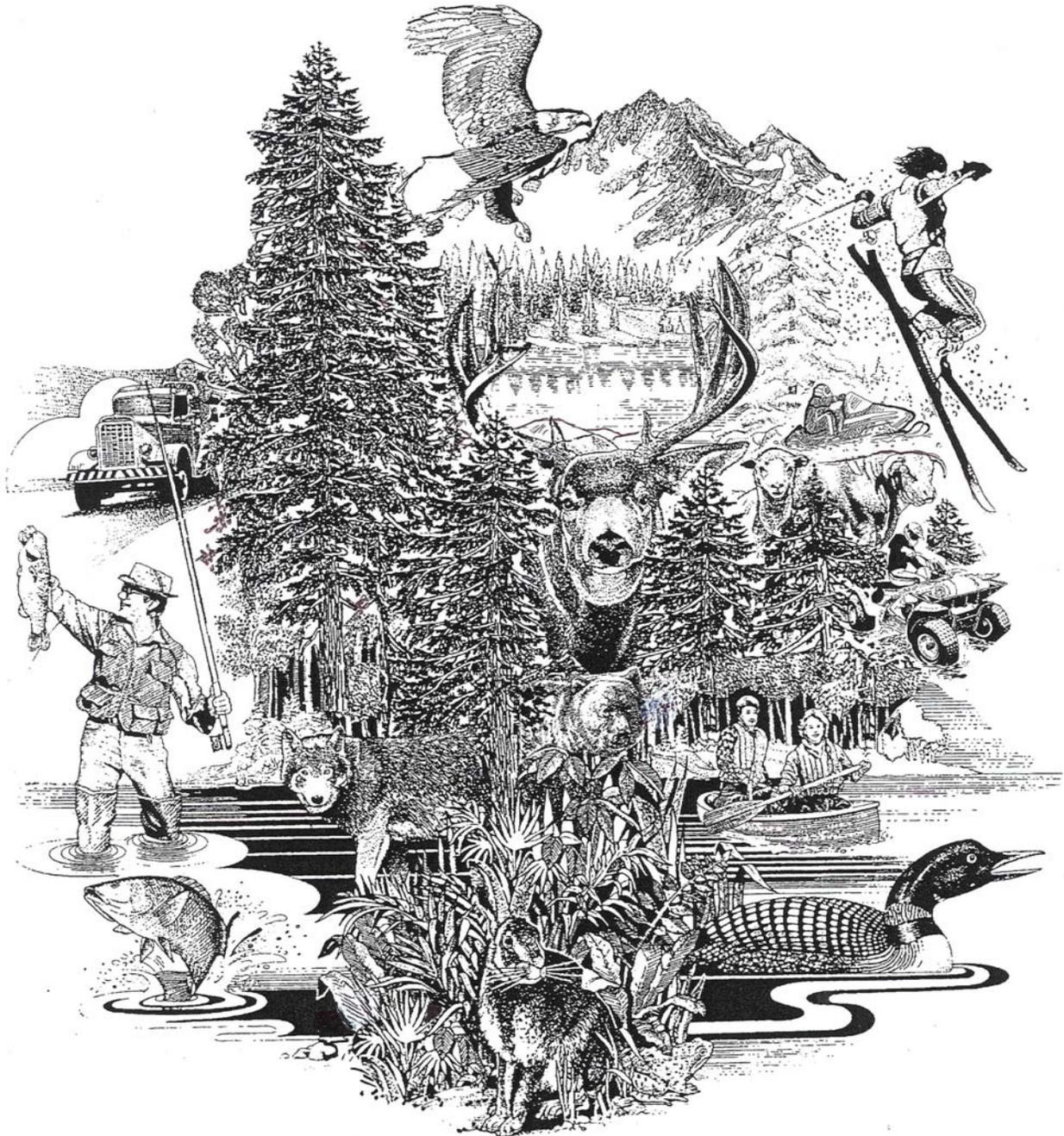
Northern
Region

May 2006



Proposed Land Management Plan

Idaho Panhandle National Forests



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Proposed Land Management Plan

Idaho Panhandle National Forests

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	v
Land Management Plan Context and Purpose	v
Plan Components and Organization.....	v
Land Management Plan Consistency	vi
Plan Set of Documents.....	vii
Relationship to Other Strategic Guidance.....	viii
Rights and Interests.....	ix
About the Idaho Panhandle National Forests.....	ix
Distinctive Features of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests	x
Chapter 1 . Vision.....	1-1
Introduction.....	1-1
Desired Condition.....	1-1
Forestwide Desired Conditions by Sustainability Topics	1-2
Access and Recreation Desired Condition	1-2
Roadless Areas and Recommended Wilderness Desired Condition.....	1-3
Vegetation Desired Condition	1-4
Timber Desired Condition.....	1-17
Fire Desired Condition	1-18
Wildlife Desired Condition	1-19
Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species Desired Condition	1-27
Other Topics.....	1-31
American Indian Rights and Interests Desired Condition.....	1-31
Cooperation and Community Involvement Desired Condition.....	1-31
Grazing Desired Condition.....	1-31
Heritage Resources Desired Condition	1-32
Lands Desired Condition.....	1-32
Minerals Desired Condition	1-32
Other Forest Products Desired Condition.....	1-32
Social and Economic Systems Desired Condition	1-33
Wild and Scenic Rivers (Congressionally Designated Eligible, and Suitable) Desired Conditions	1-34
Wilderness, Recommended Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and Primitive Lands Desired Condition.....	1-34
Geographic Areas Desired Conditions	1-37
Introduction	1-37
Geographic Areas	1-37
Coeur d’Alene Geographic Area.....	1-39
General Location, Description, and Unique Features.....	1-39
Geographic Area Desired Condition	1-39
Management Area Composition.....	1-42
Lower Kootenai Geographic Area	1-45
General Location, Description, and Unique Features.....	1-45
Geographic Area Desired Condition	1-45
Management Area Composition.....	1-48
Pend Oreille Geographic Area	1-51
General Location, Description, and Unique Features.....	1-51
Geographic Area Desired Condition	1-51
Management Area Composition.....	1-54
Priest Geographic Area	1-57
General Location, Description, and Unique Features.....	1-57
Geographic Area Desired Condition	1-57

Management Area Composition	1-61
St. Joe Geographic Area	1-63
General Location, Description, and Unique Features	1-63
Geographic Area Desired Condition	1-63
Management Area Composition	1-66
Chapter 2 . Strategy	2-1
Introduction	2-1
Objectives	2-1
Other Topics	2-4
Suitability of Areas	2-5
Management Area Suitability and Special Areas	2-8
MA1a – Congressionally Designated Wilderness	2-11
MA1b – Recommended Wilderness	2-12
MA1c – Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Areas	2-14
MA1e – Primitive Lands	2-15
MA2a – Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers	2-16
MA2b – Eligible and Suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers	2-18
MA3 – Special Interest Areas (Botanical, Geological, Pioneer, Recreational, & Scenic)	2-20
MA4a – Established and Proposed Research Natural Areas	2-22
MA4b – Experimental Forests	2-24
MA5 – Backcountry	2-25
MA6 – General Forest	2-28
MA7 – Primary Recreation Areas	2-30
Chapter 3 . Design Criteria	3-1
Introduction	3-1
Guidelines	3-1
Other Sources of Design Criteria	3-1
Access and Recreation	3-1
Access and Travel Management	3-1
Recreation	3-2
Roads	3-2
Scenery	3-3
Roadless Areas	3-3
Vegetation	3-3
Threatened, Endangered, and Proposed Plant Species	3-3
Plant Species of Concern and Species of Interest	3-3
Old Growth	3-4
Ancient Cedar Grove	3-4
Down Wood	3-4
Insects and Disease	3-4
Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plant Species	3-4
Timber	3-5
Fire	3-5
Wildlife	3-5
Connectivity	3-5
Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species	3-6
Wildlife Species of Concern and Species of Interest	3-7
Watersheds (Soil, Water, and Riparian Areas) and Aquatic Species	3-9
Watersheds	3-9
Soils	3-10
Riparian Areas	3-10
Aquatic Species	3-11
Other Topics	3-11

Air Quality.....	3-11
Buildings and Other Structures	3-12
Experimental Forests.....	3-12
Grazing.....	3-12
Heritage Resources.....	3-13
Lands and Special Uses – Utility Corridors and Communication Sites.....	3-13
Minerals.....	3-14
Other Forest Products.....	3-14
Research Natural Areas (RNAs).....	3-14
Special Interest Areas (SIAs)	3-14
Tribal Consultation.....	3-14
Wild and Scenic Rivers (W&SRs)	3-14

Acronyms

Glossary

Appendix A - Plant and Animal Diversity

Appendix B - Forestwide Suitability

List of Tables

Table 1. Recommended amount of coarse woody debris to leave after timber harvesting and fuel treatments to maintain forest productivity, meet wildlife needs, and provide an acceptable level of fire risk (Graham et al. 1994, Brown et al. 2003).....	1-9
Table 2. Restocking by biophysical setting for lands generally suitable for timber production	1-18
Table 3. Snag levels to retain after vegetation treatment activities	1-22
Table 4. Coeur d’Alene GA management area acres.....	1-42
Table 5. Lower Kootenai GA management area acres	1-48
Table 6. Pend Oreille GA management area acres	1-54
Table 7. Priest GA management area acres	1-61
Table 8. St. Joe GA management area acres.....	1-66
Table 9. Timber suitability acres	2-6
Table 10. IPNF management areas and acreages	2-10
Table 11. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1a (congressionally designated wilderness)	2-11
Table 12. Recommended additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System.....	2-12
Table 13. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1b (recommended wilderness).....	2-13
Table 14. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1c (Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Areas)	2-14
Table 15. Areas not recommended as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System	2-15
Table 16. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1e (Primitive Lands).....	2-15
Table 17. Wild and Scenic Rivers.....	2-16
Table 18. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA2a (Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers).....	2-17
Table 19. River classifications.....	2-18
Table 20. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA2b (eligible and suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers)	2-19
Table 21. Management area direction for special interest areas (SIAs)	2-20
Table 22. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA3 (SIAs -Botanical).....	2-21

Table 23. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA3 (SIAs - Geologic, Recreational, Scenic, and Pioneer Areas).....2-21

Table 24. Research natural areas (RNAs).....2-22

Table 25. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA4a (established/proposed RNAs) ..2-23

Table 26. Experimental forests2-24

Table 27. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA4b (Experimental Forests)2-24

Table 28. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA5 (Backcountry)2-27

Table 29. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA6 (general forest).....2-29

Table 30. Primary recreation areas in the IPNF.....2-30

Table 31. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA7 (primary recreation areas).....2-31

Table 32. Wildlife Species of Concern and Species of Interest Activities Schedule3-7

List of Figures

Figure 1. Vicinity map ix

Figure 2. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type Forestwide 1-5

Figure 3. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for size class Forestwide. 1-5

Figure 4. Old growth desired condition and current old growth by biophysical group and Forestwide 1-7

Figure 5. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type for the warm/dry biophysical setting. 1-11

Figure 6. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for size class for the warm/dry biophysical setting..... 1-11

Figure 7. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type for the warm/moist biophysical setting..... 1-13

Figure 11. Geographic areas in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests 1-36

Figure 12. Coeur d’Alene GA 1-38

Figure 13. Lower Kootenai GA 1-44

Figure 14. Pend Oreille GA 1-50

Figure 15. Priest GA 1-56

Figure 16. St. Joe GA 1-62

Introduction

Land Management Plan Context and Purpose

The purpose of a Land Management Plan (hereinafter referred to as the “Plan” or “Land Management Plan”) is to provide overall strategic guidance for the sustainable management of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF) by guiding relevant resource management programs, practices, uses and projects. This Plan sets the overall context for informed decisionmaking by evaluating and addressing the social, economic, and ecological systems relevant to the IPNF. This Plan applies to National Forest System (NFS) lands and:

- Is strategic in nature. This Plan does not include decisions with on-the-ground effects that can be meaningfully evaluated through a site-specific NEPA process. Those decisions are made later, only after further analysis and further public involvement.
- Was developed through public involvement and collaboration, which started at the earliest stages of Plan development and will continue through Plan completion, project planning, and monitoring.
- Contributes to social, economic, and ecological sustainability. This Plan aspires to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Emphasizes the role of best available science. New knowledge and information can be analyzed and added to this Plan at any time.
- Describes and identifies the five plan components discussed in the following section.

This Plan emphasizes an adaptive management approach that results in a collaborative process and a dynamic document that can be improved upon at any time. Such an informed and adaptive guide to land stewardship allows the Forest Supervisor to better utilize Forest staff and resources to manage the Forest. The adaptive management cycle includes Plan development; Plan implementation; Plan monitoring, inventory and assessment; and Plan review and evaluation. The findings of Plan review and evaluation reveal any needs to change the Plan, which begins the adaptive cycle again.

Plan Components and Organization

The Plan is organized into three chapters: Vision, Strategy, and Design Criteria. Each chapter includes one or more of the five Plan components: desired condition, objectives, suitability, special areas, and guidelines.

The following explains the organization of this document and helps the reader understand how to interpret the guidance included in the five Plan components:

Chapter 1. Vision: The vision describes the future conditions for the IPNF. It provides strategic direction and describes the roles, contributions, and setting of the Plan area. It sets context for management by describing the desired conditions of both the entire Forest as well as individual, community-based geographic areas. The vision is long-term and reflects ecological timeframes and social desires. The vision also contains monitoring questions that will be used to assess progress towards achieving desired conditions.

Desired Conditions describe the social, economic, and ecological attributes that guide management of the land and resources of the IPNF. Desired conditions are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities. Desired conditions may be achievable only over a long period, may be reached in the short term, or may already exist.

Chapter 2. Strategy: The strategy describes how the Forest intends to move toward the desired conditions. It includes key objectives for anticipated levels of conditions, uses, and activities. Suitable land areas at the Forestwide and management area level are identified for a variety of land uses compatible with desired conditions. The strategy also includes recommendations for special area designations.

Objectives are concise projections with measurable, time-specific intended outcomes. The objectives for the Plan are the means of measuring progress towards or maintaining desired conditions. Objectives are not commitments or decisions approving projects and activities.

Suitability of Areas are areas that are identified across the Forest or by management area that are generally suitable for various uses and activities. The identification of an area as generally suitable for a use is guidance for project and activity decisionmaking but is not a commitment or decision for a specific project or activity.

Special Areas are areas within the Forest designated for their unique or special characteristics. These special designations are also identified by a management area. Special areas may be designated by statute, by a Plan, Plan amendment, or Plan revision, or by a separate process in accordance with NEPA and other applicable laws (36 CFR 219).

Chapter 3. Design Criteria: Design criteria provide sideboards to guide management activities that help move the Forest toward desired conditions. Guidelines provide specific information and guidance for project decisionmaking. Management direction found in public laws, regulations, existing decisions, and Forest Service manuals and handbooks is generally not repeated in this chapter and is identified as other sources of design criteria.

Guidelines are for project and activity decisionmaking to help achieve desired conditions and objectives. Guidelines are not commitments or decisions approving projects or activities in the Plan area.

Land Management Plan Consistency

This Plan does not make project-level decisions nor does it contain commitments to implement specific projects; those decisions are made after further public involvement and detailed analysis.

During Plan implementation, projects and activities must be consistent with the Land Management Plan (36 CFR 219.8(b)). Consistency with the Plan is achieved by being consistent with the Plan components in the following ways:

Desired Conditions and Objectives (Ch. 1 and 2) - 36 CFR 219.7(a)(2)(i) and (ii): Most projects and activities are developed specifically to achieve or maintain one or more of the desired conditions and objectives of the Plan. It should not be expected that each project or activity will contribute to all desired conditions or objectives in every instance, but only to a selected subset. Furthermore, some projects and activities may not be clearly related to a specific social, economic, or ecological desired condition or objective of the Plan (for example, facility maintenance may be proposed without a corresponding

desired condition or objective for that proposal), so it also should not be expected that in every instance, a project can clearly point to a specific desired condition as the reason the project was proposed.

To be consistent with the Plan, a project or activity can:

- maintain or achieve one or more desired conditions or objectives,
- be neutral to relevant desired conditions or objectives, or
- have negative short-term effects, but beneficial long-term effects to one or more desired conditions or objectives.

To the extent practicable, documentation for projects and activities will identify which desired conditions and objectives are being addressed, and whether these conditions and objectives are being advanced, are not affected, or are temporarily slowed. Project documentation is not required to address all the available opportunities that could meet or work toward achieving desired conditions in a project area, but will instead focus on specific social, economic, or ecological conditions that prompted the need for the proposal.

Suitability of Areas (Ch. 2) - 36 CFR 219.7(a)(2)(iv): The Plan identifies areas that are generally suitable for a variety of multiple uses (36 CFR 219.12(a)). The Plan shows where these uses are compatible or incompatible with the area's desired conditions. The actual suitability for a particular use, even if an area is identified as generally suitable for a use, will not be determined until a project or activity is authorized. Moreover, it is not possible to anticipate every project or activity that could be proposed throughout the Forest and throughout the life of a Plan. An approved project or activity is considered consistent with the Plan if the project or activity is consistent with the general suitability identification and is consistent with other relevant Plan components. If the project or activity is not consistent with this identification, the responsible official should amend the Plan.

Special Area Guidance (Ch. 2) - 36 CFR 219.7(a)(2)(v): Special areas may have different management direction that represents their unique or special characteristics. For example, a botanical area may have desired conditions that differ from the larger landscape surrounding that special area. Project consistency for a special area would be determined in the same manner as consistency with other desired conditions, suitability identifications, and guidelines as discussed previously, but would be specific to that area.

Guidelines (Ch. 3) - 36 CFR 219.7(a)(2)(iii): To be consistent with guidelines, a project or activity will apply relevant guidelines, unless there is a documented reason to adjust the guideline for a specific project or activity. If the adjustment would be neutral with regard to relevant social, economic, or ecological conditions or would be a more appropriate way to achieve or maintain desired conditions and objectives, the responsible official will describe the proposed adjustment and explain the relationship to desired conditions and objectives in the project-level environmental analysis and decision documents. In such cases, a Land Management Plan amendment generally is not required.

Plan Set of Documents

One of the concepts of the 2005 Planning Rule and the associated directives is to create Plans that are flexible, easily updated, and adaptive in nature. One of the ways to achieve this is to

recognize that the Plan consists of a set of documents that collectively describe management direction, reflect monitoring information, include adjustments and changes, and provide supporting rationale and documentation. This Plan Set of Documents includes the following:

The Land Management Plan- This document contains the strategic management direction for the Forest and includes a management area map.

Approval Document - This document will include the decision, the rationale for the decision, and other information.

Evaluation Reports- The evaluation report is the principal document that supports the need to amend or revise a Plan (36 CFR 219.6). There are three types of evaluation reports:

1. Annual evaluations of monitoring information;
2. Evaluations for Plan amendments;
3. Comprehensive evaluation reports (CER) for Plan development or Plan revisions. The CER describes conditions and trends for the sustainability topics found in this Plan.

Monitoring Guide- The monitoring guide includes elements to be monitored, monitoring questions, measures, and frequency of measure. Monitoring may be used to evaluate the various components of the Plan and provide information for future changes. Monitoring will also gauge progress and determine the Forest's success and ability to reach desired conditions.

Environmental Management System (EMS) - The 2005 Planning Rule requires the Forest Service to establish an environmental management system (EMS) for each unit of the National Forest System (NFS). EMS is a standard approach to work that continually improves the environment. The IPNF will develop an EMS using an international standard known as ISO 14001. The standard has 17 requirements, including an independent audit to assure the system is working. Documentation within the Plan set of documents includes compliance with ISO 14001 and the Forest's environmental policy.

Other Documentation - The following documents address 2005 Planning Rule requirements and are included in the Plan Set of Documents:

- Role of Science
- Public Involvement and Collaboration
- Retention and Incorporation of Existing Plan-related Decisions
- References and Citations

Relationship to Other Strategic Guidance

The IPNF contributes to the accomplishment of national strategic guidance in accordance with its own unique combination of social, economic and ecologic conditions. This Land Management Plan helps define our role in advancing the agency's national strategy and reflects the national goals which are based on the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

This Land Management Plan is reflective of the mission of the USDA Forest Service, which is "to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the

needs of present and future generations.” The mission statement is captured by the phrase, “Caring for the land and serving people.”

Rights and Interests

A land management plan is intended to be adaptable while providing a framework that guides future management decisions and actions. As such, a plan does not create, authorize, or execute any ground-disturbing activity. A plan does not grant, withhold or modify any contract, permit, or other legal instrument, does not subject anyone to civil or criminal liability and creates no legal rights. This Plan does not change existing permits and authorized uses. A land management plan is not an action-forcing document; therefore, it is not a major federal action having a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

About the Idaho Panhandle National Forests

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF) consist of three individual national forests - the Kaniksu, the Coeur d’Alene, and the St. Joe. In 1973, these Forests were combined to be administratively managed as one national forest (for ease of discussion throughout this document, the Idaho Panhandle National Forests will be referred to as the IPNF or Forest when referencing the single administrative unit, the staff that administers the unit, or the NFS lands within the unit).

The IPNF is divided into five ranger districts, which are also the geographic areas described in Chapter 1: Bonners Ferry, Coeur d’Alene River, Priest Lake, Sandpoint and St. Joe. Together they consist of more than 2.5 million acres of public lands in the panhandle of north Idaho with small areas extending into eastern Washington and western Montana. Of the total 2,500,700 acres, about 2,351,100 acres are in Idaho, 31,200 in Montana, and 118,400 acres in Washington. Access into the Forest is via U.S. Highways 90, 95 and 2, and Idaho State Highways 200, 57 and 1.

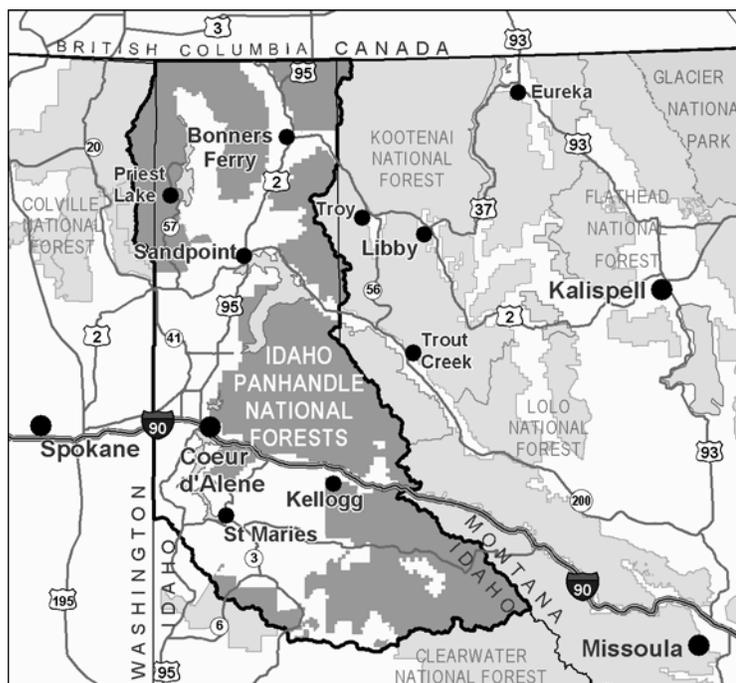


Figure 1. Vicinity map

The Forest as a whole is characterized by several mountain ranges interspersed with large lakes and extensive river valleys. Mountain ranges include the Selkirk, Cabinet, Coeur d'Alene and Bitterroot ranges. Lakes Coeur d'Alene, Pend Oreille, and the upper and lower Priest Lakes are dominant water features in the area. Major river valleys consist of the St. Joe, Coeur d'Alene, Priest, Pend Oreille, and Kootenai.

The Forest contains some of the most diverse and productive forests in the Northern Region of the Forest Service due to climatic influences and volcanic ash-capped soils. It is the home of many threatened and endangered plant and animal species, and it provides a diversity of aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Grizzly bear, woodland caribou, Canada lynx, bald eagle, gray wolf, bull trout, water howellia, and Spalding's catchfly are examples of some of these listed and rare species.

The principal population centers within the IPNF are Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint, Idaho. Smaller communities that have social, economic, and historic ties to the IPNF include St. Maries, Wallace, Kellogg, Priest River, Bonners Ferry, and Priest Lake. The nearest large urban area, Spokane, Washington, has a social and economic influence on the local communities. The majority of land administered by the IPNF is located in Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, and Shoshone counties in Idaho and Pend Oreille County in Washington. Smaller portions of land are also found in Lincoln and Sanders counties in Montana, and Latah and Clearwater counties in Idaho. Logging, mining, and ranching have played important roles in many of these communities throughout the history of the area and continue to do so in varying degrees throughout the Forest today.

Recreation opportunities abound in the IPNF. Visitors come from across the nation, as well as Spokane and local communities to fish and boat the numerous rivers and lakes. Other popular recreation activities include hiking, biking, sight-seeing, horse-back riding, hunting, Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use, recreational prospecting, snowmobiling, skiing, huckleberry picking, driving for pleasure, wildlife viewing, and sightseeing. This visitation and recreation is important to the local economy and is a major reason people choose to live in this area.

Distinctive Features of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests

The IPNF considers people to be an integral part of the forest environment. It is committed to balancing the need to conserve and sustain natural resources while providing for people's demands for products and services, now and in the future.

The unique qualities of the Forest characterize the roles and contributions of the area. Understanding these helps set realistic and achievable desired conditions, which are the basis for management direction over the next 15 years (the life of the Plan).

In addition to the multitude of resource outputs and ecological, social and economic outcomes, described in Chapters 1 and 2 of this Plan, the IPNF has some important and distinctive roles and responsibilities including:

Wildland Urban Interface: Forty percent of the IPNF is within the wildland urban interface. This provides the Forest significant opportunities to partner with landowners and other jurisdictions to improve forest health conditions and reduce the risk of wildfire.

Recognizing individual wildland fire mitigation plans and working in cooperation with counties is an important part of public safety and the Forest's fuels reduction program.

Wildlife and Fisheries: The IPNF is the home of many threatened and endangered plants and animals. Grizzly bear, woodland caribou, Canada lynx, gray wolf, bull trout, and water howellia, are examples of some of these listed species. In addition, coordination and cooperation with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game is an important part of management activities. Information from the Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy was used and incorporated into supporting analysis for this Plan.

Tribal and Cultural Interests: Working with tribal government representatives throughout this Plan continues to be a critical part of this process. The IPNF recognizes rights and responsibilities with the following tribes: Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Coeur d'Alene, Kalispel, Spokane, Nez Perce, and Colville Tribes. Participation and interest varies among the tribes depending upon issues and opportunities. All tribes will continue to be welcome partners, through the consultation process, in both the planning process and the implementation of the Plan. This will provide opportunities to work government to government, consult on sacred sites, and to develop policies that might affect these Tribes.

Proximity to Spokane: The IPNF has a distinctive role in its proximity to the large metropolitan area of Spokane, Washington. This adjacent urban area has a large social and economic influence on the IPNF. Much of the recreation that occurs on the IPNF is from the Spokane area. This influence was considered when developing this Plan.

Roadless State Petition Process: The state of Idaho is gathering information for a potential petition regarding the management of roadless areas within the state, including those on the IPNF. This Plan includes management direction for these areas. The Forest will continue to provide information and work with counties on this issue.

Water Resources: The management of the IPNF plays an important role for the area's water resources. The IPNF strives to provide healthy watersheds that are resilient to disturbances and where natural processes function to provide the multiple benefits to the Forest and its users. The IPNF also provides high quality water for many beneficial uses including public water supplies, aquatic habitats, and recreation. Management of municipal supply watersheds is an important function that the IPNF has in support of local communities.

Special Areas: The IPNF provides a broad range of recreational opportunities, some of which are associated with special or unique areas. A few of these special areas include: the Scotchman Peaks recommended wilderness area, the Salmo-Priest Wilderness, the Grandmother Mountain Wilderness Study Area, the St. Joe Wild and Scenic River, and many small designated special areas. In addition, proximity to Lake Coeur d'Alene, Lake Pend Oreille, and Priest Lake make the Forest a destination for recreation and outdoor activities.

Chapter 1. Vision

Introduction

The vision provides direction for management of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests and is an integration of the Forest Service mission statement, Forest and national goals, trends and conditions affecting the Forest, and the best available scientific information.

Desired Condition

Desired condition statements describe the ecological, economic, and social conditions desired to exist in the future. The desired condition statements are written in present tense; however, the desired condition for some resources may currently exist, or for other resources may take many decades to reach. The Forest may need to make adjustments in the desired conditions if monitoring results indicate they are not achievable in the long term or if there is a disparity in what the Forest is accomplishing. Budget levels are an important factor in moving towards the desired conditions. The objectives in Chapter 2 identify what the Forest believes it can accomplish over the next 15 years (the life of the Plan). Desired conditions are aspirational in nature; they are not final decisions or commitments to action. The vision is expressed through three levels of desired conditions: Forestwide, geographic areas, and management areas.

Forestwide Desired Conditions

Forestwide desired conditions apply across the entire IPNF. Each Forestwide desired condition contributes to the achievement of agency and Forestwide goals. The IPNF intends to move toward Forestwide desired conditions over the life of the Plan (15 years) even though not all the desired conditions may be achieved for many decades. The “Forestwide Desired Conditions by Sustainability Topic” section provides a description of the desired condition, which will provide context and scale (temporal); and is followed by a list of associated monitoring questions. Monitoring questions present how the Forest intends to measure or track its progress toward the desired condition. A separate monitoring guide will describe each monitoring item in more detail.

Geographic Area (GA) Desired Conditions

While the Forestwide desired conditions describe trends that we would expect to see over the Forest, we recognize that individual places across the IPNF have their own distinct characteristics and conditions. These areas, which are referred to as “geographic areas”, have desired conditions that are specific to an area, such as a river basin or valley, define a landscape that people associate with, and reflect community values and local conditions within that area. They do not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions. Identifying these areas gives us the opportunity to fine-tune our Forestwide management to better respond to local conditions and situations.

The IPNF is divided into five geographic areas (see map of the [“Geographic Areas of the IPNF”](#) on page 1-36). This section includes maps, descriptions, and desired conditions.

Management Area (MA) Desired Conditions

Management area desired conditions are specific to areas across the Forest that have similar management needs and desired conditions. They contain suitability determinations, indicating the general suitability of management activities and uses to achieve their desired conditions. These desired conditions are found in [Chapter 2](#), starting on page 2-8.

Forestwide Desired Conditions by Sustainability Topics

Access and Recreation Desired Condition

The IPNF's diverse landscape offers a variety of settings for a broad range of recreational opportunities. These landscapes include primitive settings that provide opportunities for solitude, and personal challenge. Less primitive, more modified settings provide opportunities for social interaction and greater comfort. Local communities, partnerships volunteers, and permit holders are involved and benefit from their roles in providing recreational opportunities. Recreational activities contribute to sustainability of the social and economic systems of local communities.

Recreation sites and use areas provide a quality recreation experience. A variety of safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible developed recreation experiences and opportunities is available. Developed recreation facilities are maintained. They are upgraded as necessary and as funds become available. Dispersed camping opportunities are available for a wide variety of users. However, dispersed camping opportunities may be less available in some areas because of resource concerns, activity conflicts, or over-use.

The scenic resources of the IPNF complement the recreation settings and experiences while reflecting healthy and sustainable ecosystem conditions. The desired conditions for scenery are reflected in the Scenic Integrity Objective maps.

Opportunities such as hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and bird watching are available for a wide variety of users. The Forest provides habitat for desired big game populations, fish, birds, and non-game species.

A variety of motorized and nonmotorized winter and summer recreation opportunities are provided. Adequate parking, turnaround areas and trailheads are available and maintained. Trail maintenance is performed to provide adequate corridors for the given users (saddle stock, snowmobiles, OHV users, hikers, etc.). Opportunities for seasonal activities such as berry picking and firewood gathering are available.

Solitude and nonmotorized experiences are available in wilderness and backcountry settings. Backcountry nonmotorized areas are of sufficient size and configuration to minimize disturbance from other uses. Nonmotorized use is available in the more developed areas, but provides less opportunity for solitude and challenge than in the backcountry. A nonmotorized trail network is maintained, accessing locations of interest for a variety of users.

Backcountry motorized experiences during both winter and summer seasons are available. The more developed areas also provide motorized winter and summer experiences that are somewhat less challenging. The motorized trail and road network is maintained.

A minimum transportation system is in place and provides safe and efficient public and agency access to the Forest. It is efficiently maintained, environmentally compatible, and responsive to public needs and desires. Impacts from authorized roads and trails are reduced, and the development of unauthorized roads and trails is curtailed. The system provides a mix of road and trail access for recreation, special uses, other forest resource management, and fire protection activities. User experience, safety, and resource protection is addressed in travel management planning, design, and operation.

Travel management planning is complete and a system of open roads, trails, and areas are designated for motorized use by vehicle class and season of use. Accurate signing is in place and motorized vehicle use maps are available. User conflicts are reduced. Loop systems are developed (both road and trail) where appropriate. Community involvement is promoted and user awareness programs (educational and informational) enhance the recreational experience. Partnerships and user group participation in evaluation, planning, and maintenance programs are sought. Some sites or improvements are fully accessible. Easements are obtained to help provide access to NFS lands.

The transportation system is interconnected to state, county, local public, and other federal roads and trails through collaborative travel management planning. The transportation system provides appropriate reasonable access to facilities, private inholdings, and infrastructure (i.e., buildings, recreation facilities, municipal water systems, dams, reservoirs, range improvements, electronic and communication sites, and utility lines).

Access and Recreation Monitoring Questions

1. Have appropriate management actions been taken on recreation sites or areas where use is at or near capacity or where there are resource concerns?
2. To what level have Forest roads been maintained to provide access?
3. What motorized and nonmotorized winter recreation opportunities have been provided?
4. What motorized and nonmotorized summer recreation opportunities have been provided?

Roadless Areas and Recommended Wilderness Desired Condition

Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs) were evaluated to identify key issues and attributes for future management. The evaluation considered wilderness characteristics, resource needs, social factors, and other ecological values. These attributes were considered in the management area allocation for all IRAs. The evaluations and the IRA maps that were used are found in Appendix K of the Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER).

Upon plan approval, management of IRAs is determined by the Land Management Plan. The management area (MA), and associated desired conditions and uses, will be what identifies future conditions and possible activities. Approximately 73 percent of the acreage in IRAs is allocated to backcountry (MA5). An additional 15 percent of IRAs is allocated to recommended wilderness (MA1b). The rest of the IRAs are allocated to a variety of MAs, most of which emphasize wilderness and undeveloped values such as wilderness study areas (MA1c), primitive lands (MA1e), wild and scenic rivers (MAs 2a and 2b), and special interest areas (MA3). Less than 4 percent of IRAs are allocated to general forest (MA6). The specific desired condition for each of these management areas is found in [Chapter 2](#). The allocation of each IRA to specific MAs is found in Appendix K of the CER.

Desired Condition

Overall, about one-third of the total acreage of the IPNF will be managed for backcountry or wilderness values. Backcountry characteristics, ecological values, and recreation opportunities associated with these landscapes are retained in many areas that have not been developed or actively managed. In total, 7 percent of the IPNF is managed for wilderness values through designated wilderness (MA1a), recommended wilderness (MA1b), wilderness study areas

(MA1c), and primitive lands (MA1e). An additional 27 percent of the IPNF will be managed for backcountry values (MA5). See [Chapter 2](#) for descriptions of each of these management areas including desired conditions.

Vegetation Desired Condition

This section is the desired condition for vegetation, both forestwide and by biophysical setting, rare plant species, and noxious weeds.

Because of the large acreage of the IPNF, and the relatively small proportion of the area that is subject to annual management, progress towards vegetation desired condition is meaningfully measured at the scale of multiple decades. By trending toward these conditions, the capacity to support a balanced, integrated, and adaptive biological system is increased and ecological diversity, productive potential, and ecological integrity are sustained.

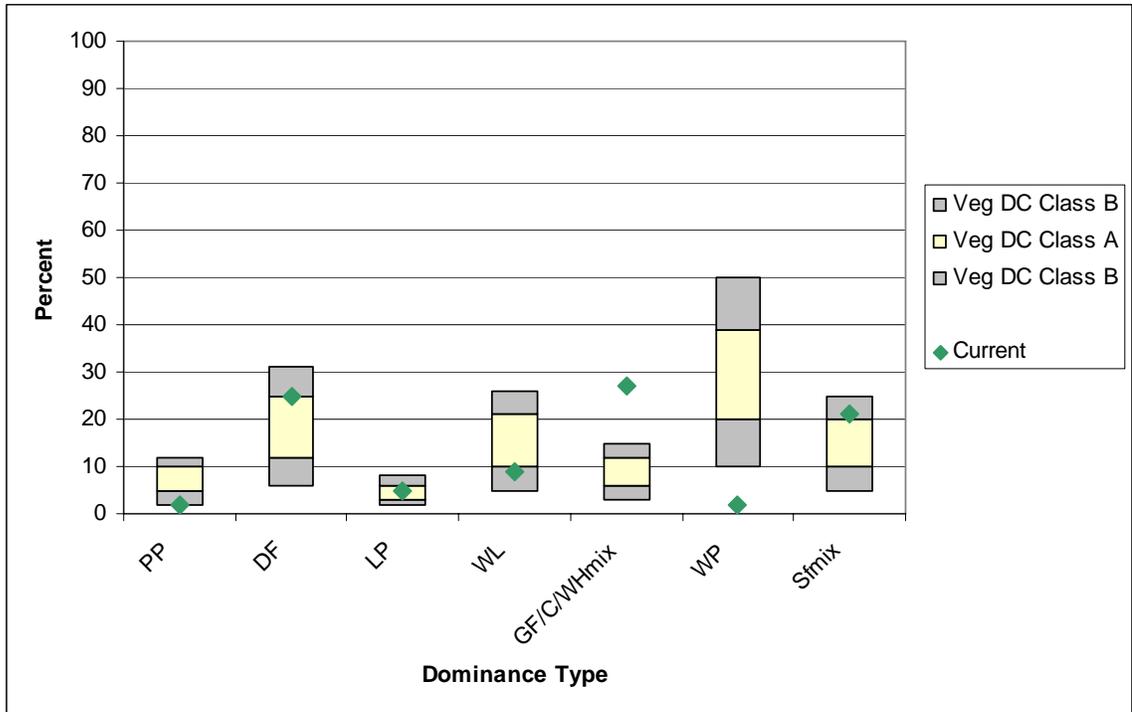
Ecosystem characteristics vary at the Forest level and by biophysical setting. Forest level descriptions provide understanding and context at a larger scale while biophysical settings provide descriptions based on influences at a smaller scale. Both levels are presented in this desired condition.

Forestwide Vegetation Desired Condition

The range of variation under historical disturbance regimes is estimated for species dominance types and size classes. These two characteristics were selected because they describe forest composition and structure, and reflect the processes important to the variation in ecosystem diversity in the Forest. The range of variation is defined using three classes: Class A, Class B, and Class C (see the glossary). Class A is defined as +/- 33 percent, Class B as +/- 34-67 percent, and Class C as +/- greater than 67 percent of the mean historic condition. Figure 2 and Figure 3 (below) display the range of variation and current vegetation composition for dominance type and size class Forestwide. Class C is not labeled on the figures, but is represented by any percentages above or below the Class B bars.

The desired condition for these species dominance types and size classes is to trend toward Class A of these ranges. In summary, the following describes the forestwide vegetation desired conditions (reference Figures 2, 3 and 4):

- Increase the amount of forests dominated by shade-intolerant, fire-adapted, relatively drought-tolerant, potentially long-lived tree species (western white pine, ponderosa pine, western larch, and whitebark pine) (Figure 2);
- Decrease the amount of forests dominated by shade-tolerant, fire-intolerant, and drought-intolerant tree species (grand fir, western hemlock, western redcedar); and also decrease the amount of forests dominated by shorter-lived shade intolerant tree species (primarily Douglas-fir) (Figure 2);
- Increase the amount of old growth forests (Green and others 1992, corrected 02/2005) primarily in the warm/dry and warm/moist forests (Figure 4);
- Increase the amount of forests within the seedling/sapling and large size classes (Figure 3);
- Decrease the amount of forests within the small and medium size classes (Figure 3);



PP = ponderosa pine; DF = Douglas-fir; LP = lodgepole pine; WL = western larch; GF/C/WHmix = grand fir/cedar/ western hemlock mix; WP = white pine; and SFmix = subalpine fir mix.

Figure 2. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type Forestwide

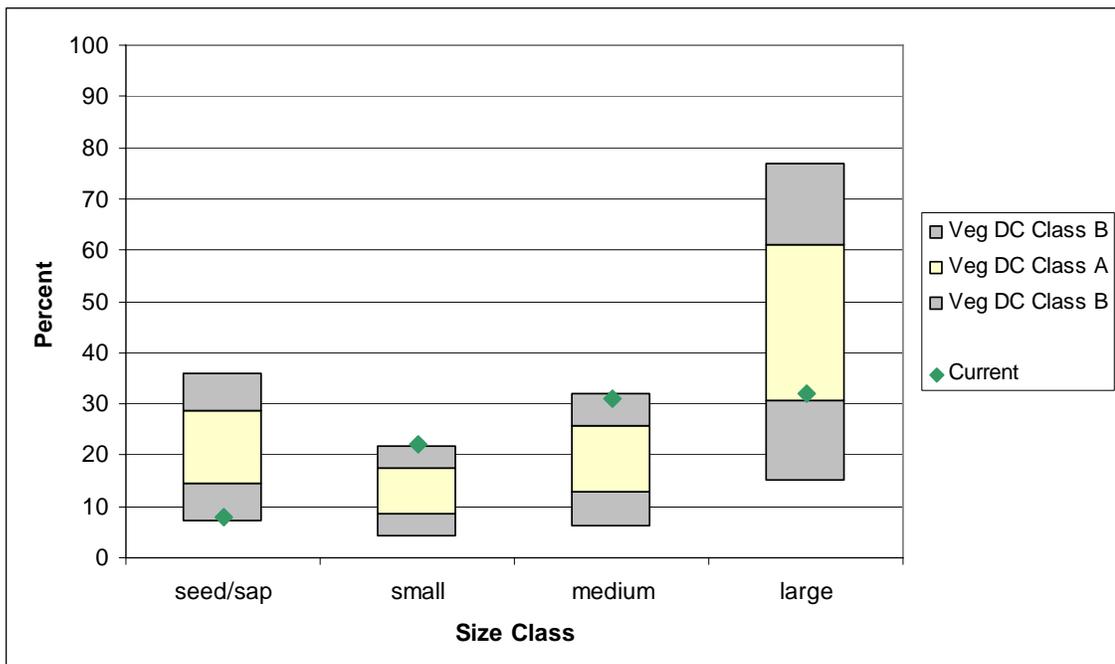


Figure 3. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for size class Forestwide.

- Increase patch size and the variability between different size patches, thereby reducing the fragmentation of forests dominated by trees in the seedling/sapling and large size classes and also old growth forests;
- Decrease patch size, thereby decreasing the homogeneity of forests dominated by medium size classes;
- Decrease the contrast between different forest size classes patches (hard edges), especially adjacent to forests that are dominated by medium and large size trees, and old growth forests (Green and others 1992, corrected 02/2005).

The desired conditions for other forest characteristics are based upon the knowledge inferred from historical disturbance regimes and our understanding on what would be produced. The desired conditions are designed to sustain the productivity and diversity of the ecosystem. This includes desired conditions for such characteristics as dead wood, soil productivity, amount and distribution of canopy layers, landscape characteristics such as patch size, and tree densities during various successional structural stages.

Disturbance Forestwide Desired Condition

The frequency of insect outbreaks decreases. Bark beetles trend toward levels consistent with the desired Class A of the desired vegetation condition. Outbreaks of certain insects, such as Douglas-fir bark beetle, fir engraver, and western balsam bark beetle are decreased from current levels. Bark beetles associated with pine species increase to endemic levels as medium to large western white pine, ponderosa pine, and whitebark pine abundance increases, with beetle populations limited by low to moderate stand densities. Mountain pine beetle outbreaks occur in lodgepole pine forests, but the outbreaks are spatially smaller, more widely distributed over time, and less intense than those that occurred in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Occurrence of forest diseases shifts as the forest vegetation trends toward Class A. The impacts of most root diseases are reduced as stands are thinned of susceptible trees. Defoliators (i.e., western spruce budworm) associated with shade-tolerant species decrease. Dwarf mistletoe is part of ecosystems, providing habitat and a food source for wildlife. A combination of landscape patterns, tree species diversity and within stand structural conditions limits spread, intensity, and population levels of these parasitic plants. Blister-rust-induced mortality is reduced as the abundance of resistant western white pine and whitebark pine increases.

Fire (including wildland fire use and prescribed fire for resource benefits) contributes to the Forestwide desired vegetation conditions for size class and dominance types, snags, and coarse woody debris. Prescribed fire effects assist in developing desired conditions for forest floor depths of duff and mineral soil exposure.

Fire regime condition class (FRCC) is improved from condition classes 3 and 2 (high and moderate departure from conditions associated with the historical fire regime) to condition class 1 (low or no departure).

Old Growth Forestwide Desired Condition

During most of the 1900s, old growth forests were viewed as an important contributor of high quality wood products. Over time, national forest management changed to recognize that old growth forests are an important component of ecosystem diversity and represent a distinct successional structural stage. Beginning in the early 1990s, definitions and protocols were

developed to inventory and monitor old growth forests, and measures were put in place to conserve this important resource.

Old growth forests provide habitat for a portion of the life histories of many wildlife species. Additionally, some plant species are more likely to be found in old growth and late-seral forests than in other successional stages. Old growth trends toward Class A (Figure 4). Trending toward both the vegetation desired conditions (Figure 2 and Figure 3) and old growth desired conditions (Figure 4) provide for the full range of ecosystem diversity, including habitats for those species associated with late seral structures, climax community types, and old growth forests. Wildlife richness and species richness for other life forms is high, particularly for arboreal lichens, saprophytes, and various forms of fungus and rots.

Figure 4 (see below) displays the range of variation and current levels of old growth by biophysical setting and Forestwide. Class C is not labeled on the graphs but is represented by percentages above or below the Class B bars.

Over the life of the Plan, there is an increase in old growth by approximately 1 percent (considering forested lands) on the Forest managed for old growth in each of the biophysical settings. This increase is moving the Forest towards providing habitat conditions (ecosystem diversity) for the majority of the species that are associated with old growth. Maintaining or restoring the key elements (Green and others 1992, corrected 02/2005) that make up old growth, (snags, down wood, decadence, etc.) provides habitat conditions to meet the specific species diversity needs of many federally listed threatened and endangered species, species of concern, and species of interest that are associated with old growth (also see Wildlife Desired Condition [“Old Growth Desired Condition”](#) section on page 1-23).

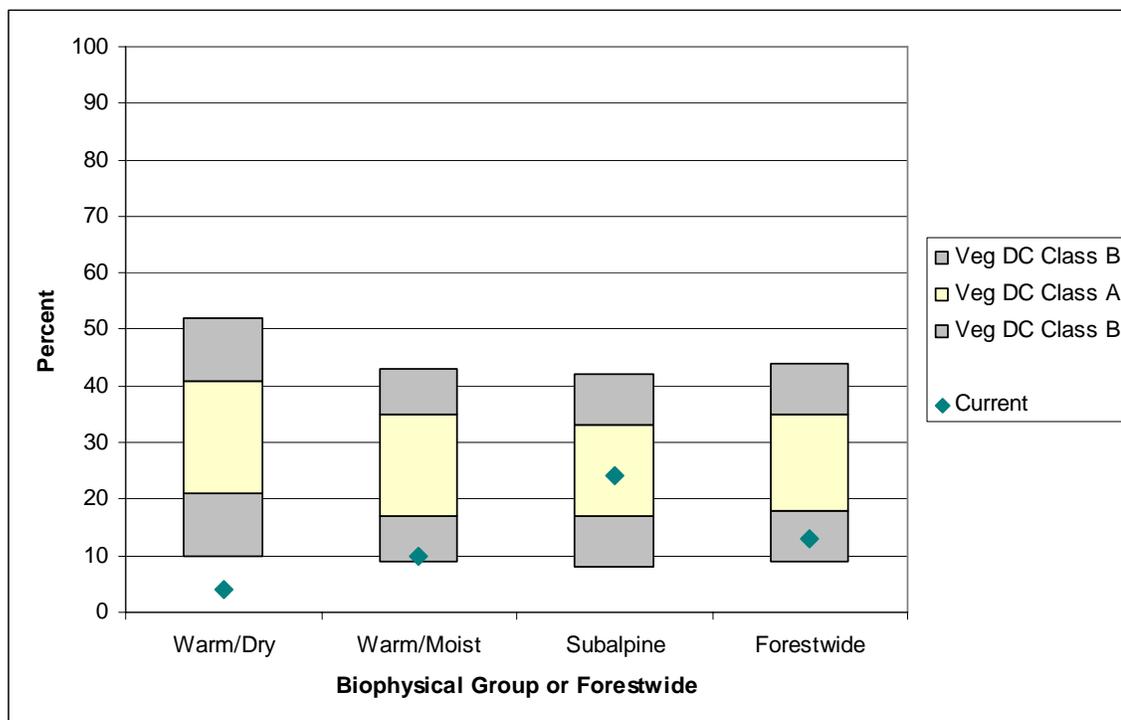


Figure 4. Old growth desired condition and current old growth by biophysical group and Forestwide

Old growth is well distributed. Connectivity increases and provides for dispersal and genetic exchange. Larger stands of old growth (up to several hundred acres or more) provide for a greater diversity of plant and animal habitats and species. The size of many existing old growth patches (especially those less than 50 acres) is increased, reducing the impacts of edge effect, increasing interior habitat, and increasing the amount of suitable habitat for associated species.

Old growth forests have a reduced risk from overcrowding, insect and disease infestations or other conditions beyond those normally associated with the historic disturbance regime (e.g., Douglas-fir encroachment in historically open ponderosa pine stands) and are restored to more natural conditions (e.g., reduced stand density). Restoration activities (including prescribed burning, thinning, and timber harvest) protect key elements (including snags, down wood, decadence, and overstory components) of old growth while improving forest health. Old growth-associated species are protected during management activities. The quality and integrity of existing old growth stands is maintained or improved, and ecosystem and species diversity is maintained or improved over the long term. Vegetation management activities (timber harvest and fuel reduction activities) adjacent to old growth are designed to minimize edge effects, including windthrow risk and edge mortality that would cause loss to adjacent old growth patches. This may include a combination of retaining medium to large trees in sufficient numbers, and modifying the timing and intensity of management activities such as prescribed burning, and the juxtaposition of adjacent activity areas to old growth patches.

The impacts of roads on old growth are minimized (such as fragmenting habitats, loss of snags and down wood) to maintain important habitat components. Accelerating the development of old growth characteristics on the Forest that are not currently considered old growth, ensures the maintenance of old growth forests.

Down Wood (Coarse Woody Debris) Forestwide Desired Condition

Dead trees (standing and down) and other down woody materials are critical components of all vegetation communities and a fundamental feature of healthy forests that have developed with historical disturbance regimes. Coarse woody debris is generally considered those pieces greater than three inches in diameter and more than six feet in length, but includes a variety of sizes, species, lengths, and decay classes. Coarse woody debris in various stages of decay serves many important ecological functions, including nutrient cycling, erosion control, maintenance of soil productivity, and wildlife habitats. Larger size pieces (tree boles) are considered to be very important as they tend to be more stable, persist longer in the environment, and provide specific habitat needs for several species of wildlife (see Wildlife Desired Condition “[Snags and Down Wood Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-22). Dead trees also provide firewood for the high demand that occurs in the Forest.

Maintaining coarse woody debris in the amounts (tons per acre) displayed in Table 1 ensures that enough organic matter is left to maintain long-term forest productivity (including soil productivity) when timber harvest, site preparation, and fuels treatments have been completed. The amount of down wood retained is averaged over the treatment area. Leaving a wide range of down wood including large logs where they occur encourages a diversity of wildlife species while also providing for soil productivity. Large logs left on site are considered part of the total contribution of the desired tons/acres of down wood (also see Wildlife Desired Condition “[Snags and Down Wood Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-22).

Table 1. Recommended amount of coarse woody debris to leave after timber harvesting and fuel treatments to maintain forest productivity, meet wildlife needs, and provide an acceptable level of fire risk (Graham et al. 1994, Brown et al. 2003)

Biophysical Setting	Tons/acre (TA) >3 inches in diameter	Log numbers and sizes to include (where they occur). Leave the largest size material available on site.		
		Number of pieces/acre (PA)	Minimum diameter	Average length (feet)
Warm/Dry (VRUs 1-3)	VRUs 1 & 2: 7-12 TA VRU 3: 10-20 TA	6-14 PA	12" - with at least 2 pieces >20"	20 feet - with minimum 12 feet
Warm/Moist (VRUs 4-6)	VRUs 4 & 6: 17-33 TA	20-30 PA	15" - with at least 10 pieces >20"	35 feet - with minimum 12 feet
Subalpine (VRUs 7-10)	VRUs 7 & 8: 12-25 TA VRUs 9 & 10: 7-15 TA, except Subalpine fir/beargrass (11-23 TA)	VRU 7: 20-30 PA VRUs 8-10: 15-20 PA	VRU 7: 15" - with at least 10 pieces >20" VRUs 8-10: 10"	VRU 7: 35 feet - with minimum 12 feet VRUs 8-10: 30 feet - with minimum 12 feet

Coarse woody debris amounts vary by vegetation response unit (VRU) within biophysical settings. These amounts are not evenly distributed on every acre but vary across the treatment unit with topographical features, slope, aspect, habitat type, and successional structural stage. These amounts meet soil productivity, wildlife, watershed, and fire risk concerns over most areas. To meet safety concerns and reduce the risk of extreme wildfire, the amount of down wood after vegetation management activities in developed recreation sites, in areas adjacent to the community protection zone, and in other areas of safety concern (such as roads that provide escape routes) is reduced and may not meet historic or desired conditions for soils or wildlife.

Higher amounts of coarse woody debris are acceptable where larger piece sizes predominate. Retaining live and standing dead trees after vegetation management activities provide for future recruitment of coarse woody debris.

Other down woody materials, such as tops and limbs, are important to the cycling of several nutrients, including potassium. Retaining tops and limbs for one winter season between timber harvest and site preparation and/or fuel management activities maximizes leaching of nutrients into the soil, particularly on those soils deficient in potassium. On NFS lands within the community protection zones (see "[Fire Desired Condition](#)" on page 1-18), fire risks are balanced with soil nutrition mitigations.

Landscape Pattern Forestwide Desired Condition

The combination of management actions, natural disturbances, and plant succession contributes to the desired overall landscape pattern. Average patch size, the variance in different size patches, and interior forest conditions are increased for both seedling/sapling and large size classes.

Vegetation Desired Condition by Biophysical Setting

Vegetation response to disturbance and existing and historic conditions vary by ecological or biophysical setting. Each biophysical setting has distinctive potential natural communities: soils, hydrologic function, landform and topography, climate, air quality, and natural processes (nutrient

and biomass cycling, succession, productivity, and fire regimes). Each setting also includes moisture and temperature gradients, resulting in growing conditions that are more similar within than between each setting. These characteristics have been mapped and identified as vegetation response units (VRUs) in the Forest. The VRUs range from VRU 1, which is a very warm and dry setting to VRU 10, which is cold. For this Plan, these ten classes have been grouped into three broad biophysical settings:

- **Warm/Dry** – This setting includes the warmest and driest forest sites that support forest vegetation, usually at low elevations or mid-elevations on southerly aspects. This setting is defined by VRUs 1-3. This biophysical setting is 15 percent of the NFS forested lands.
- **Warm/Moist** – This setting includes moist forest sites, usually low to mid-elevation sites, and includes stream bottoms and adjacent benches and toe-slopes. This setting is the most productive, with favorable soil moisture and temperature regimes that favor abundant plant growth. This setting is defined by VRUs 4-6. This biophysical setting is 61 percent of the NFS forested lands.
- **Subalpine** – This setting includes the moist, lower subalpine forest to the cool or cold, dry sites between forest and alpine tundra. The moist end of this setting is common on northwest to east-facing slopes, riparian, and poorly drained subalpine sites. The cool to cold dry sites occur at higher elevations and typically have a short growing season. This setting is defined by VRUs 7-10. This biophysical setting is 24 percent of the NFS forested lands.

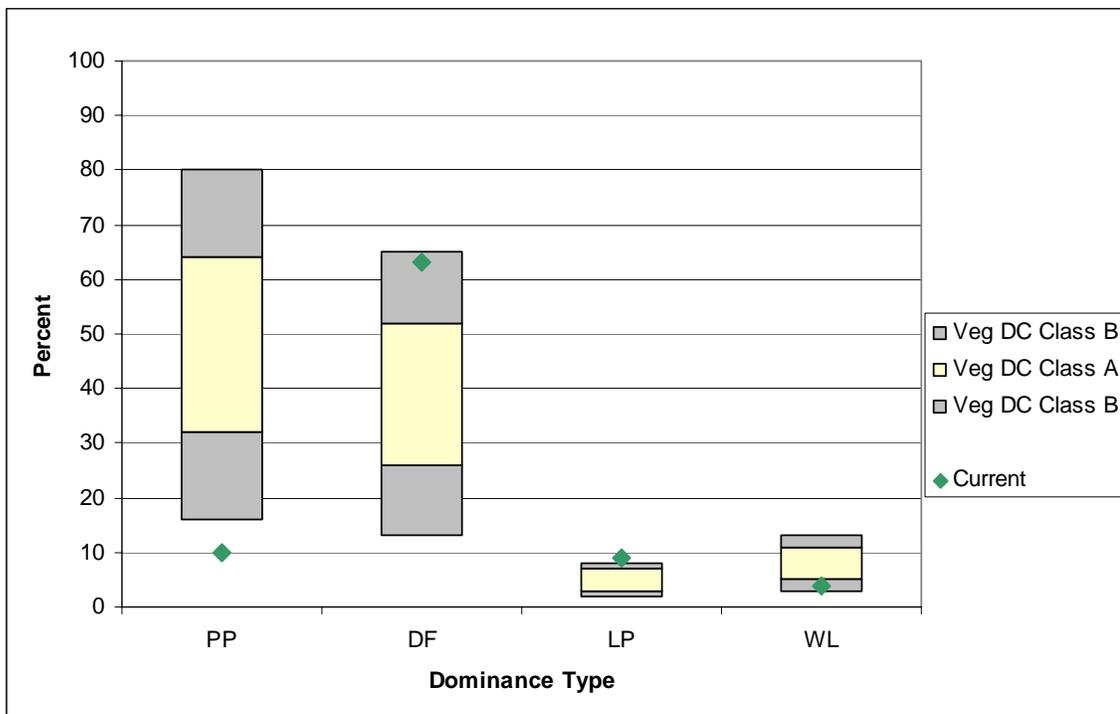
A map of these three biophysical settings can be found in the Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER). Because of variability in ecological composition, the desired condition for vegetation varies by biophysical setting. Following is a description of the desired condition for vegetation by biophysical settings:

Vegetation Desired Condition for Warm/Dry Setting (VRUs 1-3)

The desired condition for forest dominance type and size class for the warm/dry biophysical setting is displayed in Figures 5 and 6, respectively.

Desired Attributes: On the driest sites (e.g., steep, southerly/westerly aspects, VRU 1), characteristics resemble frequent, low-severity, fire/disturbance intervals, less than 50 years. Open-grown, park-like stands that contain an abundance of ponderosa pine, with lesser amounts of Douglas-fir are maintained. Bark beetle outbreaks are uncommon in these open stands, and root disease mortality is low. These stands are usually multi-aged, low density, with canopy cover usually less than 30 percent and rarely reaching 50 percent. (Multi-aged, low-density stands contain a sparse number of tree seedlings, usually no more than 50-100 established tree seedlings; with 30-40 large mature trees per acre, irregular spaced including groups and gaps in the Forest.) Low amounts of down wood and snags are present.

Where soil moisture is more plentiful, fire frequencies and severities typically become more variable and include low and mixed-severity and some occasional stand-replacing fires. At least, 100-150 seedlings per acre are established after a regeneration event. At maturity, frequently 40-80 trees per acre exist, with canopy coverage often exceeding 50 percent. Species dominance varies due to soil moisture/solar radiation relationships, with Douglas-fir/western larch and ponderosa pine stands more prevalent on the moist end, and ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir stands occurring on drier, southerly aspects.



PP = ponderosa pine; DF = Douglas-fir; LP = lodgepole pine; WL = western larch.

Figure 5. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type for the warm/dry biophysical setting.

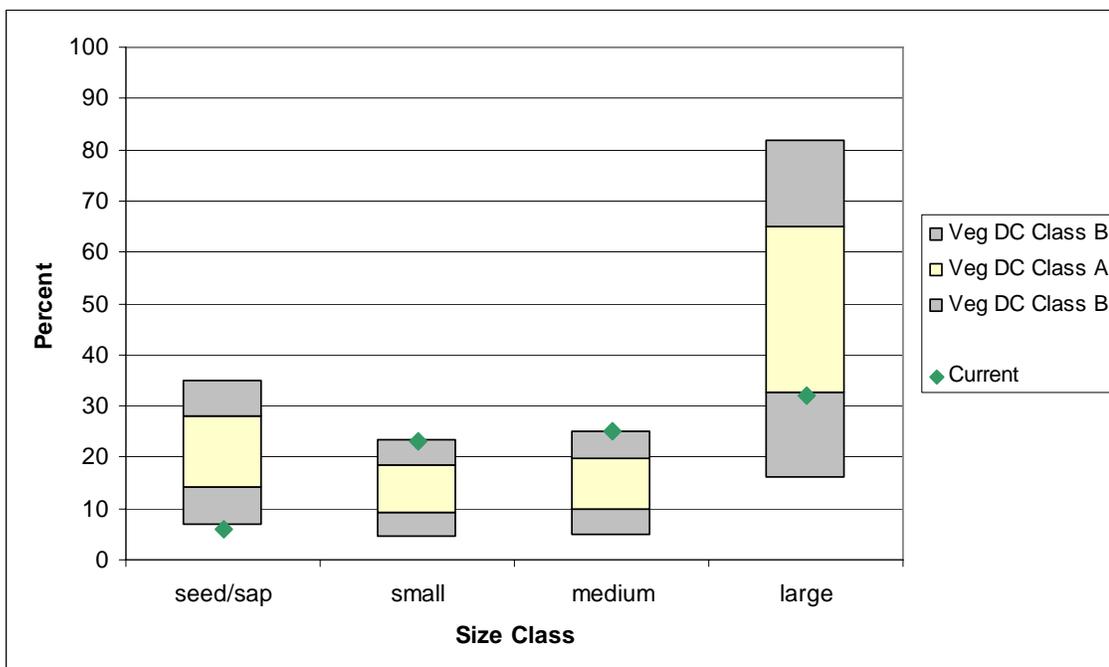


Figure 6. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for size class for the warm/dry biophysical setting.

There is a variety of forest age-class structures including: 1) multi-aged, which are similar age classes usually occurring in small one to three acre patches, or intermingled age classes throughout an area; 2) two-aged, and less common, which seldom exceed 10 percent; and 3) single-age forests, which usually correlate with the most moist sites, at the upper elevation and/or northerly aspects of this biophysical setting, VRU 3. These relatively moist sites have more abundant regeneration after disturbance (usually 150-200 trees per acre) and have higher densities of trees at maturity, sometimes exceeding 100 trees per acre.

Landscape Pattern: The resulting desired pattern for these landscapes is a mosaic, with small patches that have either sparse or more numerous seedlings and saplings, and small or medium-size trees (depending on the moisture availability of the site and the age of the patch) inter-mixed within larger patches containing mostly medium to large-size trees.

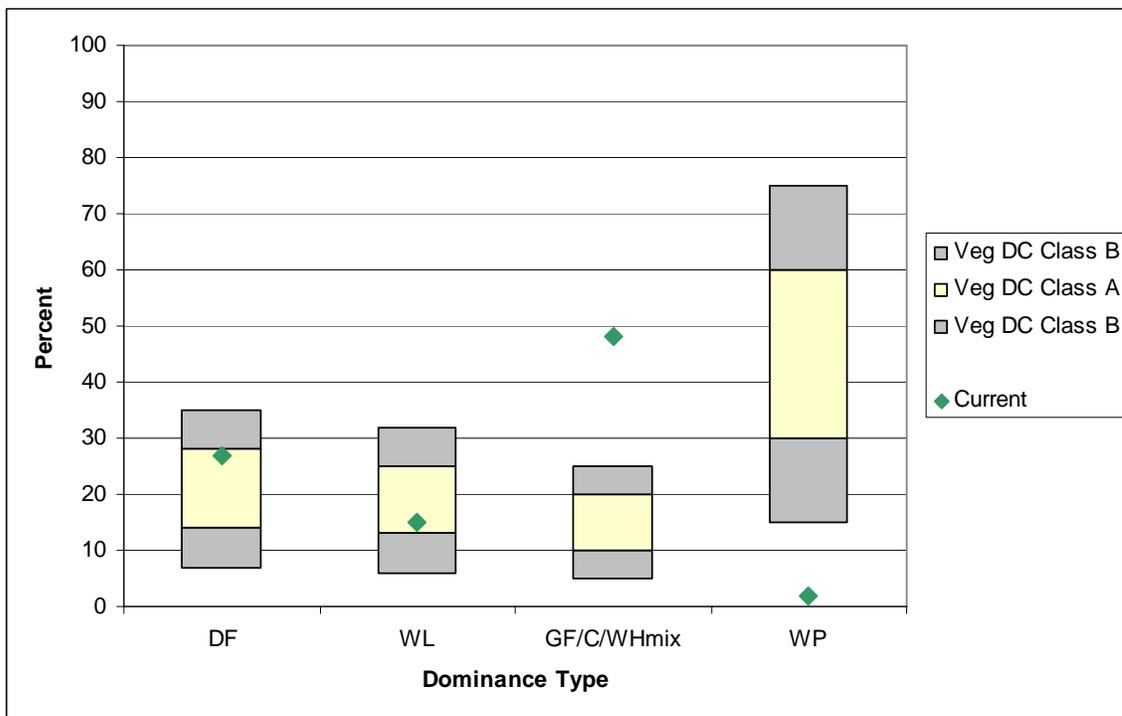
Vegetation Desired Condition for Warm/Moist Setting (VRUs 4-6)

The desired condition for forest dominance type and size class for the warm/moist biophysical setting is displayed in Figures 7 and 8, respectively.

Desired Attributes: This setting has characteristics that resemble infrequent, mixed-severity and stand-replacing fire/disturbance intervals (mean fire interval of 200 years or more), although low-severity ground fires may also occur, especially in the drier environments. Because of the relatively long intervals between major disturbances and the high productivity of these sites, numerous successional pathways exist that include a wide variety of tree species and densities, vertical canopy arrangements, and snag and down wood conditions. The wettest sites have forest conditions that are produced by extremely long intervals between stand-replacing events.

On drier aspects at mid-elevations (grand fir habitat types, VRU 4), fire frequency is shorter, with an average range of 50-100 years when considering all types of fire severities. Early-seral tree species, such as western larch and western white pine, and in some cases Douglas-fir (where root disease risk is low), dominate throughout all successional structural stages. Other tree species occur in smaller quantities, including grand fir, and in colder locations, Engelmann spruce and lodgepole pine. On the extreme dry end on warm exposures, ponderosa pine is a seral component. Due to slower initial growth rates, grand fir, and Douglas-fir (Engelmann spruce on cold sites) often form a subordinate canopy layer during early stages of succession. Differentiation of canopy strata may occur during forest development, creating multi-storied stands, even within a single age-class of trees.

Two-age class stands are also desirable, resembling mixed-severity fire conditions, usually with fire-tolerant western larch and Douglas-fir in the overstory. Multi-age classes are desired when small groups of early-seral tree species are desired (usually two-five acres in size), or during later stages of succession when more shade-tolerant trees regenerate in the understory. Desired tree numbers usually include at least 250 trees per acre of established seedlings during the early developmental stage, with 100 or more trees at maturity. The desired canopy coverage at maturity is usually greater than 60 percent.



DF = Douglas-fir; WL = western larch; GF/C/WHmix = grand fir/cedar/western hemlock mix; WP = white pine.

Figure 7. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type for the warm/moist biophysical setting.

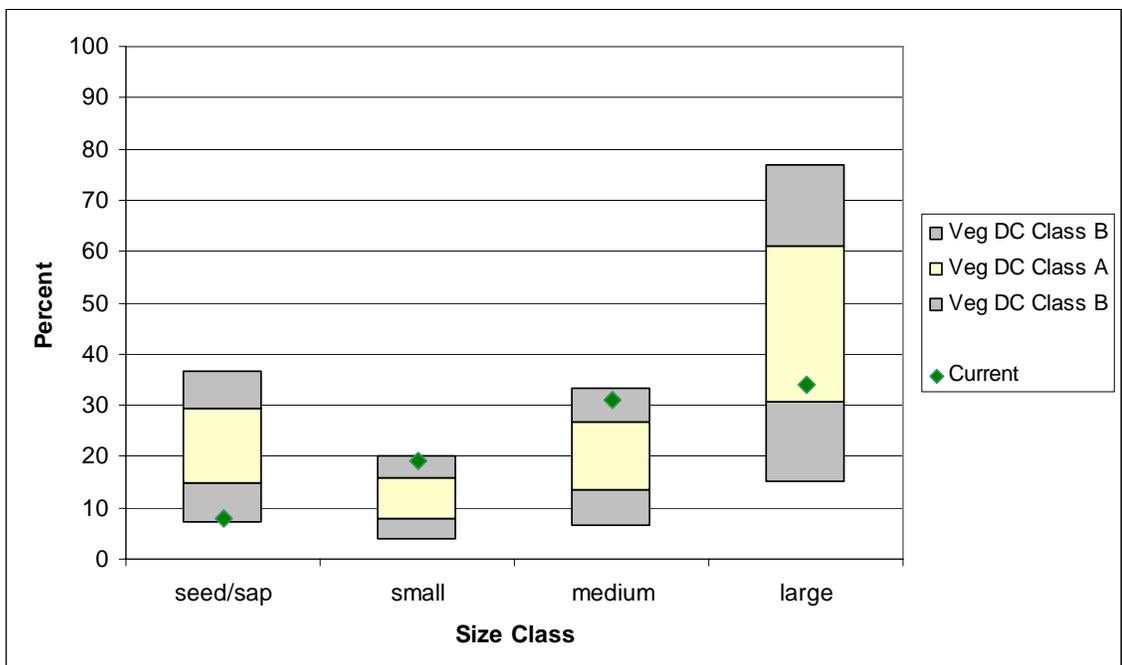


Figure 8. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for size class for the warm/moist biophysical setting.

In the moderately cool and moist uplands, forests include a mixture dominated by early-seral shade intolerants (western larch, western white pine, Douglas-fir), with seral shade tolerant species (grand fir, Engelmann spruce) and climax species forming a smaller proportion of the forest. Ponderosa pine can be desirable on western redcedar habitat types (queen cup beadlily and ginger phases) on warm exposures. Single and two-age class forests are desirable during early, middle, and late-successional structural stages. Multi-storied forests increase in desirability when forests reach maturity. Desired tree numbers usually include at least 300 trees per acre of established seedlings during the early seral structural stage, with 100-150 or more medium to large sized trees at maturity. The desired canopy coverage at maturity is usually greater than 60 percent.

On wet sites, an abundance of large, old, mature forests occur and are often dominated by the climax western hemlock and western redcedar. These sites occur on bottomland terraces, toe-slopes, and lower slope positions. Other trees that occur on these sites include both seral shade-intolerant and shade-tolerant trees; however, they are generally in less abundance than the climax species. High tree densities and canopy coverage of 70 percent or more exist through most successional structural stages. Mature stands support very large trees (often 30-50 inches in diameter), are open-grown and occasionally park-like in appearance, and are generally two- or multi-storied.

Landscape Pattern: The resulting pattern for these landscapes includes a coarse pattern, including large, distinguishable patches, with residual structural diversity and heterogeneity both within and between patches.

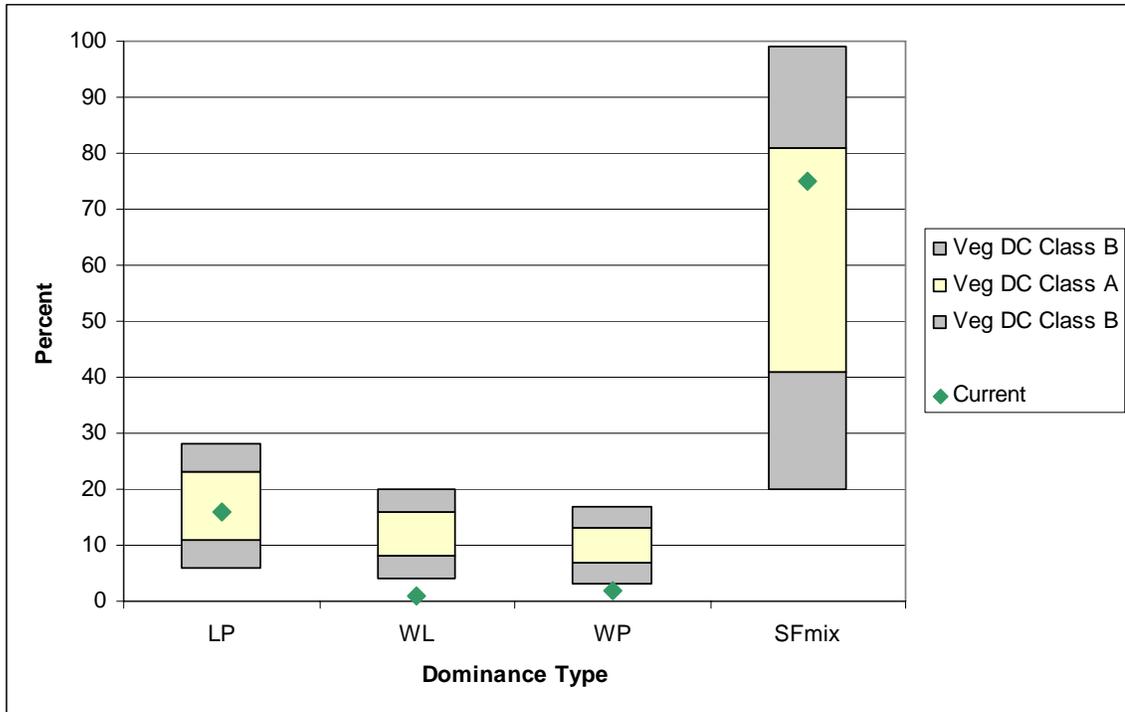
Vegetation Desired Condition for Subalpine Setting (VRUs 7-10)

The desired condition for forest dominance type and size class for the subalpine biophysical setting is displayed in Figures 9 and 10, respectively.

Desired Attributes: On cool/moist sites, characteristics resemble fire-free intervals of 120-150 years or more, usually of mixed-severity. Western larch, western white pine, Engelmann spruce, and Douglas-fir are seral dominants, while lodgepole pine dominates areas less often in colder locations. Grand fir occurs on the warmer sites. Climax species, subalpine fir and mountain hemlock; also occur on colder sites where fire-free intervals exceed the life span of lodgepole pine. Forests consists of two-aged forests (usually western larch/Douglas-fir in the overstory), and single-aged forests (seral mixed conifers, lodgepole or spruce-dominated stands). Multi-aged stands are less common, but do exist with discrete age groups (one to three acres in size), and in older forests where several canopy layers exist. Seedling stage includes at least 250 trees per acre and 80-120 trees per acre at maturity. Canopy coverage is 60 percent or more.

On wet sites, seasonally saturated soils on toe-slope positions and as riparian stringers occur. Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir (mountain hemlock) dominate. Western larch, western white pine, and lodgepole pine are desirable at lower elevations.

On dry sites, characteristics resemble fire-free intervals of 50-130 years, consisting of both low to mixed severity. Desirable species are western larch, lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir in early seral structural stages, succeeding to subalpine fir and Engelmann spruce as forests age.



LP = lodgepole pine; WL = western larch; WP = white pine; SFmix = subalpine fir mix.

Figure 9. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for dominance type for the subalpine biophysical setting.

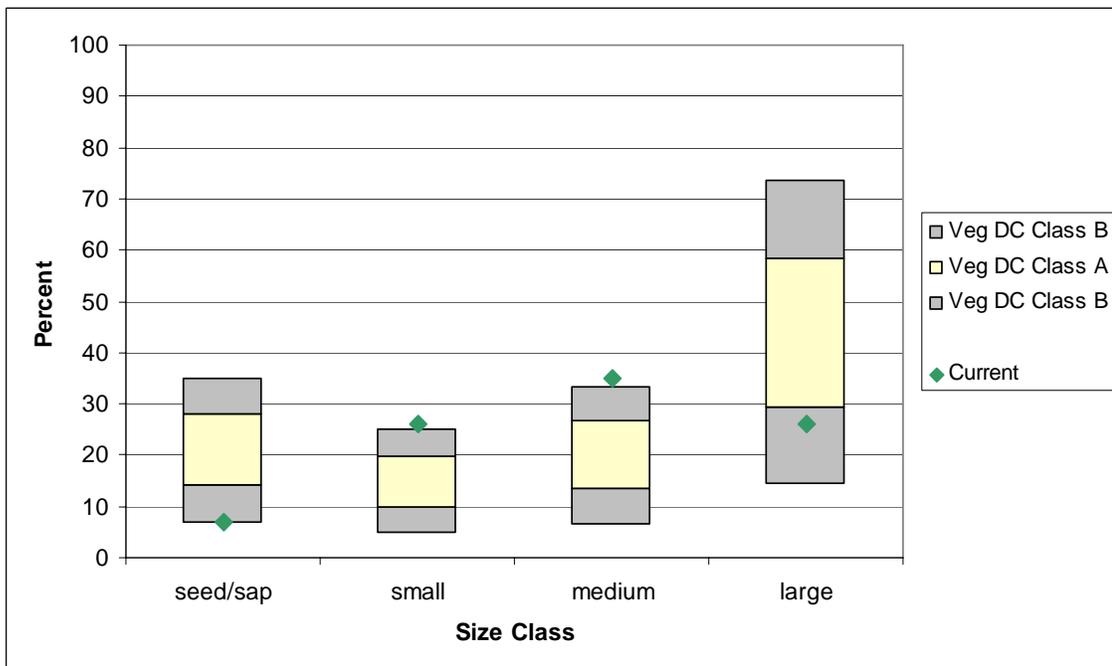


Figure 10. Vegetation desired condition and current vegetation for size class for the subalpine biophysical group.

On high elevation sites, whitebark pine is a dominant tree in the coldest and driest environments. Forests are low to moderate in density, and have conditions that would have been supported by mixed-severity fires. Other desirable trees include lodgepole pine, mountain hemlock, subalpine fir, and Engelmann spruce. Canopy coverage is generally less than 80 percent at maturity, much less at timberline sites. Forest conditions include numerous small openings (one-half to three acres in size) that are available for whitebark pine regeneration. Multi-aged stands are desirable, predominately occurring in discrete age-class groups. At the seedling stage, the desirable numbers include at least 100 trees per acre of whitebark pine that have some blister rust resistance, with 30-80 trees per acre at maturity. At the extreme timberline sites, trees grow in clusters.

Landscape Pattern: The resulting pattern for these landscapes includes a variety of patch sizes, with residual structural diversity and heterogeneity both within and between patches.

Rare Plant Species Desired Condition

Habitat for plant species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) improves on NFS lands, which helps trend toward species recovery or delisting. Habitats are managed in a manner consistent with established and approved recovery plans, management plans, biological opinions, conservation strategies, conservation assessments, and other appropriate (e.g., scientifically credible, peer reviewed) direction. Habitat conditions are provided so that species listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA trend toward recovery or are delisted.

Threatened Plant Species

Water Howellia Desired Condition – Small vernal (appearing in the spring), freshwater glacial ponds and oxbow sloughs remain unimpaired.

Spalding's Champion (a.k.a Spalding's Catchfly) Desired Condition – Open grasslands with rough fescue or bluebunch wheatgrass associations on deep soils in the valleys and foothills are maintained and free from conifer and noxious weed encroachment.

Species of Concern and Species of Interest Desired Condition

Habitat is available to sustain populations of species of concern and species of interest. A greater understanding of these plants, including their habitat requirements and effects from human activities is acquired. Populations of plant species of concern and species of interest are not isolated by management activities and populations persist and expand.

Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plant Species Desired Condition

New invasive plant species and noxious weeds are not introduced and existing populations are contained. Integrated pest management approaches are used, including best management practices that limit introduction, intensification and spread due to management activities. Areas requiring revegetation use locally adapted, native plant species where appropriate. Agreements with cooperative weed management areas assist in noxious weed and invasive plants control across jurisdictional boundaries.

Vegetation Monitoring Questions

1. Have management activities increased the abundance of early seral, shade-intolerant dominance types as projected by the Plan?
2. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for old growth?
3. Have management activities trended toward Plan desired conditions for threatened plant species?
4. Have management activities trended toward Plan desired conditions and preclude listing of plant species of concern and species of interest?
5. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for management of noxious weeds?
6. Have management activities met Plan objectives to improve forest health?
7. Have management activities met Plan objectives to improve condition class?

Timber Desired Condition

As a result of trending toward the desired conditions for vegetation, timber production from NFS lands is sustainable over the life of the Plan and into the future, providing timber products for current and future generations. Timber harvest is used as a tool to achieve many objectives beyond the production of wood products. This includes maintained or improved forest health; reduced fire risk, improved wildlife habitat, and improved watershed conditions. Timber harvest is also used to restore vegetation conditions, increasing species such as ponderosa pine, western white pine and western larch, and creating canopy layers, patch sizes, and tree densities that are consistent with historical disturbance regimes. Extended rotation lengths (150-200 years or more) are used to create late-seral structures and old growth forests to meet the desired conditions for old growth.

Production of timber from NFS lands is also one of the contributors to an economically viable forest products industry. A sustainable supply of forest products is offered, providing wood products for the nation and employment opportunities to local communities. This sustainable supply of wood products is a result of management that moves the Forest towards the desired condition for vegetation. Where consistent with other resource desired conditions, salvage of dead and dying trees captures as much of the economic value of the wood as possible, while meeting resource protection requirements. An integrated approach to forest management achieves the vegetation objectives through a mixture of timber sale contract methods and product sizes.

Lands classified as suitable for timber production have a regularly scheduled timber harvest program. Silvicultural prescriptions use the knowledge from disturbance regimes to develop a variety of harvest methods (including thinnings, other partial cuts, and regeneration harvests), cutting cycles, and rotation lengths to produce wood products while sustaining the productivity and diversity of the ecosystem. These lands are restocked as indicated in Table 2. Numbers in this table are an estimate of trees per acre and stocking percentage required to meet an average level of timber yield. Tree numbers and stocking percentages are displayed after five years for a final regeneration harvest. Final regeneration harvest is defined in FSH 1909.12, 60.5, as “timber harvest designed to regenerate a timber stand or release a regenerated stand. This includes clearcut, removal cut of a shelterwood or seed tree system, and selection cut.” These numbers may be adjusted by a certified silviculturist who prepares a site-specific silviculture prescriptions for an area at the project scale to address fine-scale, site-specific desired condition.

Table 2. Restocking by biophysical setting for lands generally suitable for timber production

Biophysical Setting	Trees Per Acre; 70% of Area Stocked
Warm/Dry	150-200
Warm/Moist	300-400
Subalpine	200-250

Lands classified as not suitable for timber production but where harvest could occur for other multiple-use purpose have an irregular, unscheduled timber harvest program. Restocking of these lands varies, based on the purpose and reason for the timber sale. Lands suitable for timber harvest but not suitable for commercial timber sales may have individual trees cut to reduce hazard or improve recreation of other resource considerations, but no wood fiber would be removed.

Harvest flows off NFS lands are sustainable. To ensure sustainability, a long term sustained-yield capacity (LTSYC) has been calculated for the Forest, based on management activities to achieve desired conditions. The timber sale program quantity (TSPQ) does not exceed the LTSYC. The LTSYC for the Forest is 16.7 MMCF (million cubic feet) from all lands suitable for timber harvest, with 14.9 MMCF on lands generally suitable for timber production and 1.8 MMCF on other lands. The TSPQ from other lands exceeds LTSYC for a period of time because of the need for fuel treatments and other harvests to approach desired condition for vegetation and other resources. The TSPQ for all lands suitable for timber harvest does not exceed the LTSYC.

The IPNF timber program over the last five years has averaged approximately 60 MMBF. The average annual TSPQ for the first decade of this Plan is at similar levels as the past decade planned (see “[Timber Objectives](#)” in Chapter 2, page 2-3). The TSPQ is comprised of a mixture of products from a variety of contract methods. The majority of the TSPQ is sawtimber, but a sustainable program for non-sawlog, wood fiber exists. In response to markets, smaller diameter trees (averaging 5-10 inch diameters) are harvested to improve forest health and provide a product. This TSPQ is in response to activities designed to meet desired ecological, social, and economic conditions and to move towards the desired condition for vegetation and other resources. The estimated volumes may change due to project-level data, unforeseen events, or modified conditions. The ability to produce this TSPQ is also dependent on budgets, project level decisions, project appeals, and litigation.

Timber Monitoring Questions

1. How much timber has the IPNF sold by suitability class and is it consistent with projections?
2. How much non-sawlog timber has the IPNF sold?
3. What percentage of lands generally suitable for timber production has been adequately restocked within five years after final regeneration harvest?

Fire Desired Condition

Wildland fire is the primary disturbance event in the Northern Rockies that has shaped the composition, structure, and function of our landscapes and ecosystems. The full range of appropriate management responses to wildfires (including wildland fire use) is consistent with management objectives, and provides for firefighter and public safety, protection of high-value resources or resource benefits, and opportunities to reduce large fire-suppression costs.

Wildland fire is used to manage vegetation, where appropriate. Restoring fire to fire-dependent ecosystems, including prescribed burning, contributes to long-term resiliency, integrity, and sustainability of productive forest ecosystems. Social concerns, such as proximity to structures, smoke management requirements, public health, and safety, limit the scale of managed fire short of historic levels. Prescribed fire and the application of wildland fire use (based on wildland fire use plans) are essential to maintaining and/or restoring watersheds to properly functioning condition and maintaining and/or improving wildlife habitats. Road access is maintained for fire suppression and evacuation needs as determined by travel management planning.

Hazardous fuels are reduced. National Forest System lands within the wildland urban interface (WUI) are the highest priority for fuel treatment activities to reduce the threat of extreme fire behavior and to provide fuel conditions that allow for safe and effective initial attack, especially within the community protection zone as defined and characterized in county wildland fire mitigation plans and the IPNF fire management plans. Wildfires within the WUI are suppressed unless other appropriate management responses, including wildland fire use for resource benefit, better mitigate threats to firefighter and public safety, property, and other resource values. There may be occasions to depart from vegetation desired conditions in order to reduce threats from wildland fire to communities, especially within the community protection zone. Risk reduction and maintenance activities are focused around communities to be better prepared to withstand wildland fire.

Hazardous fuels outside the WUI, and at times outside the community protection zone within the WUI, are treated to meet vegetation desired conditions. This includes providing landscape conditions suitable for wildland fire use and prescribed burning for resource benefits. Fire regime condition class (FRCC) is improved or maintained in fire regimes 1, 2, and 3. Fuel loads are restored to meet vegetation desired conditions, when doing so does not create a hazardous fuel situation.

Fire Monitoring Questions

1. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions to reduce fire regime condition classes inside and outside of the WUI?
2. Has wildland fire use for resource benefit and prescribed fire been utilized to promote the long-term resiliency, integrity, and sustainability of forest ecosystems?

Wildlife Desired Condition

The diverse physical environment found in the Forest creates a zone of biological diversity where the flora and fauna of three climatic regions are able to overlap. Central Rocky Mountain plants, animals, flora, and fauna from the moist coastal forests, and boreal flora and fauna all contribute to the Forest composition. As a result, the Forest ecosystems are unusually diverse. The Forest has some of the most productive and biologically diverse forest land in the Interior Columbia River Basin.

Management of the Forest for wildlife is based on 1) the ecosystem diversity (coarse filter) premise--by managing vegetation communities within or towards a desired vegetation condition, the Forest is providing habitat for the majority of the more than 350 wildlife species known to occur in the forest; and 2) the species diversity (fine filter) premise--eliminating or minimizing risks and threats to individual species where management of habitats alone is not adequate to fully provide for a particular species or group of species, especially threatened and endangered

species, species of concern, and species of interest. Managing for both ecosystem and species diversity helps provide appropriate ecological conditions for federally listed species, species of concern, and species of interest. Ecological conditions for habitat quality, distribution, and abundance contribute to self-sustaining populations that are well distributed and interactive, within the bounds of the life history, distribution, and natural population fluctuations of the species; within the capability of the landscape; and consistent with multiple use objectives.

Terrestrial Habitat Desired Condition

The wildlife habitat desired condition is similar to the vegetation desired condition, both Forestwide and for each of the biophysical settings. See the section titled “[Wildlife Desired Condition by Biophysical Settings](#)” on page 1-21 for specific information about vegetation desired condition and its relationship to wildlife habitat. Also see Vegetation Desired Condition “[Down Wood \(Coarse Woody Debris\) Forestwide Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-8 and “[Old Growth Forestwide Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-6.

Forestwide Desired Condition

The amount, distribution, and characteristics of vegetation (live and dead) representing a full range of ages, structures, and types are present at levels necessary to maintain and/or contribute to both ecosystem and species diversity; in particular, species identified as threatened and endangered, species of concern, and species of interest. Plant community attributes for species composition, size classes, canopy closures, structure, snags, and down woody material managed within or towards Class A of the vegetation desired condition provides habitat for the majority of the wildlife species known to occur in the Forest.

Terrestrial wildlife habitats are diverse with native plant communities dominating the landscape. A variety of seral stages distributed across the landscape provide interior habitat, patch connectivity, and resiliency in the long-term (many decades). Habitats are well distributed both spatially and over time in patch sizes similar to those that occurred historically as a result of natural disturbance regimes such as fires, insects, and diseases. Large, contiguous habitat blocks provide for decreased fragmentation and increased connectivity, especially those with interior habitat conditions.

The shrub/seedling/sapling stages are maintained within Class A of the desired vegetation condition, providing habitat for species such as large ungulates and a variety of bird species. Dense and immature stands susceptible to drought and damage or destruction from insects, pathogens, and wildfire are reduced while providing habitat for a wide range of wildlife species. Late seral/old forest structures are increased, including large residual trees throughout all biophysical settings, providing wildlife habitat for species such as fisher, pygmy nuthatch, pileated woodpecker, and boreal owl.

Forestwide Desired Condition Summary: As a result of changes in vegetation composition and structure, habitat conditions are improved for species associated with:

- interior habitat in patches of large trees or old growth;
- woody structures within successional patches;
- single storied and/or more open stand structures dominated by large trees;
- large patches of early- and late-seral habitat; and
- riparian habitat dominated by large conifers or large deciduous trees.

Wildlife Desired Condition by Biophysical Setting

Wildlife Desired Condition for Warm/Dry Setting - Forest structure and composition (e.g., tree density, down wood composition and tree species) is restored to a more natural condition, increasing the suitability of habitats for species that use this setting. Open stand structures dominated by large trees increase (such as those found in vegetation response unit 1 (VRU) and south and west aspects of VRU 2 - see "[Vegetation Desired Condition for Warm/Dry Setting \(VRUs 1-3\)](#)" on page 1-10), providing habitat for species such as flammulated owls and white-headed woodpecker. The reduction in stand density increases the foraging capability for species such as Lewis's woodpecker, which is an aerial insectivore.

The majority of this setting (low elevation north and east aspects of VRU 2 and 3) has canopy coverage that often exceeds 50 percent, providing thermal or snow-intercept cover for most big game species that use the area during the winter season. The number of large diameter (greater than 20 inch DBH) ponderosa pine, western larch trees, and snags increase, providing nesting and/or foraging habitat for species such as white breasted nuthatch, pygmy nuthatch, and Lewis's woodpecker. Cottonwood snags are found along river and stream channels, which provide habitat for species such as Lewis's woodpecker.

Stand-replacing wildfires that occur on lands managed with a natural process emphasis (e.g., congressionally designated wilderness) provide habitat for species such as black-backed and Lewis's woodpecker. The occurrence of noxious weeds is reduced and wildlife forage quality and quantity is maintained or improved, especially on big game winter range.

Wildlife Desired Condition for Warm/Moist Setting - Canopy coverage at maturity is greater than 60 percent, providing hiding and thermal cover in big game summer range and habitat for wide-ranging carnivores such as grizzly bear and Canada lynx.

Remnant stands from stand replacing events and insect-infested stands occur, providing high concentrations of prey (wood-boring beetles) for species such as the three-toed and black-backed woodpeckers. Large contiguous areas of forested habitat are present providing habitat for martens and fishers at the home range scale.

Western white pine (rust resistant) and western larch are increased and restored where they occurred historically, increasing habitat for species associated with these forest types.

Multi-storied, multi-aged stands (comprised of species such as western larch, Douglas-fir and western white pine) with dense canopy cover and snags provide nesting and/or foraging habitat for wildlife species such as marten, fisher, flammulated owl, northern goshawk, boreal owl, northern flying squirrel, and black-backed woodpecker. Large numbers of trees, greater than 30 inches DBH with a high incidence of defect (such as heart rot or broken topped trees) are present, providing nesting habitat for species such as pileated woodpecker.

Wildlife Desired Condition for Subalpine Setting - Vegetation treatments increase the potential for whitebark pine regeneration, which along with grouse whortleberry, beargrass, and elk sedge, are found in the upper elevations providing forage for species such as grizzly bear, hoary marmot, and blue grouse.

Large amounts of large down wood are present providing nesting and denning sites for Canada lynx and habitat for species such as the pygmy shrew. Special habitat features (talus, cliffs, and cirque basins) occur throughout this setting, providing denning habitat for wolverines and winter habitat for mountain goats. Shrub and herb riparian vegetation occurs, providing forage during the summer for grizzly bears. Large areas with low road density and minimal human disturbance provide habitat for species such as grizzly bear, wolverine, mountain goats (especially during the winter period), and habitat for Canada lynx den sites.

Snags and Down Wood Desired Condition

Snags are retained throughout the Forest. Vegetation treatments areas are patterned after historic conditions for vegetation communities and consider wildlife species needs, soil productivity, and current conditions. Snags are well distributed in the IPNF and left in patches where possible. To meet safety concerns and provide for firewood, snags and down wood retained for wildlife are generally situated away from roads and clumped in groups. Green trees throughout the Forest, including vegetation treatment areas, provide for future snags and down wood. Resource and safety concerns are considered when identifying the amount of snags and down wood to retain in areas such as community protection zones and campgrounds.

Large snags are retained to provide habitat for a number of species such as pileated and white-headed woodpeckers. In areas with a great number of large diameter snags (such as Douglas-fir beetle infested areas), snags may be removed, consistent with historic density and composition-but retaining at least four large snags per acre, while providing for wildlife and soils needs.

Increase the number of snags (those between 10 and 20 inches DBH and larger than 20 inches DBH) in landscape areas without desired snag levels (as displayed in Table 3) providing for well-distributed habitat across the landscape. The loss of existing snags is minimized in areas where snag densities are low. In these areas, increase snag densities to provide for populations of species that utilize snags for roosting, nesting, and foraging. Retain early seral tree species (ponderosa pine, larch, white pine, and whitebark pine) to produce large woody structures and snags.

Snags are retained within areas of vegetation management, (at least minimum numbers of snags as displayed in Table 3) providing habitat for wildlife species and nutrient recycling and soil needs. Snag patterns and densities, in the IPNF and/or landscape area; vary by factors such as topography, slope, aspect, habitat type, successional stage, or management practices. Snag numbers are averaged over all the Forest for each biophysical setting within a landscape area.

Table 3. Snag levels to retain after vegetation treatment activities

Biophysical Settings	Retention density (average number of snags per acre between 10 and 20 inches DBH.)
Warm/Dry (VRU 1-3)	2-6 lower end for drier sites (VRU 1 & 2), upper end for moister sites (VRU 3)
Warm/Moist (VRU 4-6)	6
Subalpine (VRU 7-10)	6

Snags and green trees remaining after management activities emphasize species such as ponderosa pine, western larch, and cottonwood in sizes greater than 10 inch DBH and minimum height of 10 feet, that best meet wildlife needs. Smaller sizes, heights, and species are retained if

the desired height, size snags, and species are not available. Where desired snag numbers are not achievable (e.g., inside the community protection zone), green trees that are three to six for each snag below desired numbers, are left on site for future snags and down wood (coarse woody debris).

Large and small logs, and other woody debris (coarse woody debris), such as stumps, root wads, bark, and piles of limbs, are retained in areas of vegetation management (see minimum amounts in Vegetation Desired Condition “[Down Wood \(Coarse Woody Debris\) Forestwide Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-8) providing a diversity of habitats for wildlife such as small mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Logs are present in or near streams, ponds, or lakes providing structure for amphibians, birds, and small mammals (i.e., beaver, mink, and otter). Retain some slash piles after harvest providing habitat for rodents, hares, and rabbits. Large down wood such as western larch, subalpine fir, Douglas-fir, and whitebark pine are present, providing denning habitat for Canada lynx.

Old Growth Desired Condition

Over the long term (many decades), there is an increase in the amount of old growth habitats in the Forest in each of the biophysical settings. In the short term (over the life of the Plan), there is an increase in the amount of lands managed for old growth conditions in each of the biophysical settings that move the Forest toward providing habitat conditions (ecosystem diversity) for the majority of the species associated with old growth. Maintaining or restoring a variety of characteristics associated with old growth (as defined in Green and others 1992, corrected 02/2005), such as the key elements that make up old growth (large trees, snags, down wood, decadence etc.), contributes to habitat conditions that meet the specific needs of many species that utilize and/or are associated with old growth. See the Vegetation Desired Condition “[Old Growth Forestwide Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-6”; the “[Vegetation Objectives](#)” in Chapter 2 on page 2-2; and the “[Old Growth Guidelines](#)” in Chapter 3 on page 3-4 for further clarification.

Connectivity/Corridors/Linkages/Approach Areas Desired Condition

Movement/travel corridors, with adequate cover and minimal human disturbance, provide population connectivity and genetic exchange between large blocks of habitat (i.e., between large blocks of core). The Forest cooperates with Montana and Idaho State departments of transportation (MDOT or ITD) and private landowners to allow movement of wildlife across valley bottoms (approach areas) between large blocks of habitats on the Forest, while considering public safety (i.e., reduce automobile/wildlife associated accidents).

Security Desired Condition

Yearlong or seasonal road restrictions, area closures for key summer and/or winter range, and elk security areas provide security in small and large blocks of land areas for wide ranging carnivores (e.g., grizzly bear, wolverine, and Canada lynx) and many big game species (e.g., mountain goats).

Activities avoid or minimize disturbance to wildlife during critical life stages such as nesting, rearing, and wintering. The potential for reproductive success is increased, potential impacts to adults and young of the year are reduced, potential for negative outcomes resulting from human/wildlife interactions is reduced, and the potential of abandonment and possible mortality of young are reduced. Overall, the potential for species being listed as threatened or endangered is reduced.

Terrestrial Species Desired Condition

The Forest continues to provide habitat for more than 350 wildlife species (amphibians, reptiles, large and small mammals, birds, invertebrates, etc.), similar to the number of species thought to have occurred historically on the Forest. The Forest continues to have diverse and sustainable wildlife populations that persist over time. Managing for desired vegetation conditions contributes to meeting the habitat needs of threatened and endangered species, species of concern, and species of interest, and helps conserve species diversity and sustainability on the Forest. See [Appendix A](#) of this Plan for more information on species of concern and species of interest.

The Forest cooperates and/or coordinates with Canada, various states, and federal, county, local, and private entities in the management of wildlife, providing opportunities for funding sources that are otherwise not provided in National Forest budgets.

Threatened, Endangered, or Proposed Species Desired Condition

Recovery plans, management plans, biological opinions, and other appropriate (e.g., scientifically credible, peer reviewed) direction provide the details necessary for management of threatened and endangered species habitats such as habitat for the federally listed bald eagle, gray wolf, grizzly bear, and Canada lynx. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) trend toward recovery or are delisted. Suitable habitat conditions are provided in a balanced manner benefiting many listed threatened and endangered species

Bald Eagle Desired Condition – Large diameter trees are present adjacent to large lakes and major rivers (generally within one mile) providing for the maintenance and expansion of bald eagle populations. Activities reduce the potential for disruption of nesting, nest abandonment, and possible mortality of eaglets in occupied nest sites.

Gray Wolf Desired Condition - Vegetation communities are managed within or trend toward Class A of the desired vegetation condition, generally providing suitable habitat conditions for big game, the main prey base for wolves. When wolves are present, activities on NFS lands near den and rendezvous sites reduce the potential for displacement, abandonment of pups, and possible mortality.

Canada Lynx Desired Condition - The seedling/sapling successional stage (in those dominance types such as subalpine fir mix) is maintained within Class A of the desired vegetation condition, providing suitable habitat conditions for snowshoe hare, the principal prey of Canada lynx. Large amounts of large down wood provide denning habitat for Canada lynx in the subalpine biophysical setting. Disturbance associated with snowmobile use occurs in areas that avoid or minimize impacts to Canada lynx (by not increasing the amount of groomed trails or play areas). The Forest provides connectivity between Canada lynx habitats in lynx analysis units allowing for dispersal of juveniles and genetic exchange. The Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy (LCAS) provides direction for managing adequate levels of habitat components for the Canada lynx. Dialogue with US Fish and Wildlife Service continues; to discuss ways of incorporating the science for Canada lynx into Forest Service management.

Grizzly Bear Desired Condition - Large blocks (more than 2,500 acres) of undisturbed habitat (core areas) are present providing secure areas required by bears during the active bear year (April 1 to November 30). Where den sites of females with cubs occur, activities during spring emergence (generally after April 1), reduce the potential for abandonment and possible mortality of cubs, human/bear conflicts, and displacement of

animals from suitable habitat. Forage quality and quantity (grasses and forbs used during spring and huckleberry production in the fall) are increased throughout the recovery areas, improving conditions for bears as they enter hibernation.

Parameters established in the Grizzly Bear Access Amendment for core areas and total and open-motorized-route density (which include motorized use of roads and trails and high levels of nonmotorized use of trails), are met in all BMUs. Parameters for linear open and total road densities are maintained in areas established for occupancy. Guidance for food storage and grazing activities are established and implemented, and wildlife-resistant containers are placed in major activity areas (such as campgrounds), reducing the potential for mortality of grizzly bears.

Woodland Caribou Desired Condition - Management of the South Selkirk Mountains herd of woodland caribou, the only population of caribou in the contiguous United States, is coordinated with the States of Idaho and Washington, and the province of British Columbia, Canada. Large blocks of mature and old growth forests increase, providing suitable and critical habitat components for caribou. Abundant lichen is present in these habitat types, providing caribou with a seasonal and primary food supply. Forage is maintained or increased through natural succession or management activities that enhance the production of lichens. Large blocks of old growth and/or mature forests are connected, providing for travel, movement, and security. Travel/movement corridors allow for genetic exchange between the South Purcell and South Selkirk caribou populations as well as with other desired neighboring populations. Activities avoid or minimize disturbance to caribou calving areas and during the winter season.

Terrestrial Species of Concern (SOC) and Species of Interest (SOI) Desired Condition

See [Appendix A](#) of this Plan for lists of species of concern and species of interest. In general, vegetation communities are managed within or trend toward Class A of the desired vegetation conditions, providing habitat conditions that support both ecosystem and species diversity. Risks and threats (such as human-caused disturbance) to these species are reduced or eliminated, especially during critical life stages such as denning (e.g., wolverine), nesting or rearing, and winter use by mountain goats. Reduce the potential for negative impacts to habitats or populations and the potential for these species to become listed as threatened or endangered.

Species of Concern

Terrestrial Invertebrates (Mollusks) Desired Condition - The Forest cooperates with other state, federal, and private agencies, increasing the potential for funding to identify habitat needs, risks, and threats where little is currently known or available. Documented locations and high probability habitats are protected, minimizing the potential for mortality.

Peregrine Falcon Desired Condition – Active nest sites are protected from activities on NFS lands, reducing the potential for nest abandonment and mortality of young.

Species of Interest

Aquatic and Riparian-associated Species Desired Condition - Aquatic and riparian areas provide habitat for numerous wildlife species from invertebrates to large carnivores, including amphibians, waterfowl, and many other bird species. These areas include small to large streams, ponds, wetlands, bogs, fens, lakes, and wallows.

“[Aquatic Species Desired Condition](#)” on page 1-29; “[Watershed and Aquatic Species Objectives](#)” on page 2-4 of Chapter 2; and “[Aquatic Species Guidelines](#)” on page 3-11 of Chapter 3 provide habitat conditions that meet most associated wildlife needs and reduce potential impacts such as direct mortality (amphibians), abandonment of young (fisher, harlequin duck, common loon, black swift), or displacement. Important habitat features such as bogs, wallows, seeps, and licks are protected by project design criteria (e.g., snowmobile use is restricted on northern bog lemming habitat).

Snag-associated/dependent Species Desired Condition - Desired conditions, objectives, and guidelines for snags provide habitat conditions for snag associated/dependent wildlife species.

Old Growth-associated Species Desired Condition - Desired conditions, objectives, and guidelines for old growth provide habitat conditions for old growth associated wildlife species.

Bats Desired Condition – Large and small snags are available, providing habitat for bats. Activities near caves or mines occupied by bats for roosting or hibernacula, reduce the potential for displacement from habitat, abandonment of young, and possible mortality (e.g., restricting entrance using bat gates).

Burned Forest-associated Species Desired Condition – Some burned forest habitats resulting from both natural and human caused fires, occur throughout the Forest providing habitat for fire-dependent species, generally for up to three years after the fire occurs.

Big Game Species Desired Condition - Management of big game habitats is coordinated with State wildlife agencies. Meetings (one or more per year) between the two agencies occur providing opportunities to discuss management issues related to state population objectives, population monitoring, management of big game, and management activities that may impact big game populations.

Vegetation communities are managed within or trend towards Class A of the desired vegetation condition providing forage, cover (hiding, thermal and snow intercept), and security to meet the needs of big game species on summer and winter ranges. Design criteria for forage, cover and security varies by species is identified at the project level.

On big game winter range, as well as the warm/dry biophysical setting, canopy cover maintains favorable snow depths and conditions for animal movement, reduces wind velocity, and helps to reduce impacts from human-caused disturbance. Canopy cover ranges from less than 30 percent on the driest sites to more than 50 percent where soil moisture is more plentiful.

Densities of open roads and motorized trails on winter range are generally low, often less than one mile per square mile. Travel routes through winter range provide access to higher elevations. Winter range provides security for big game during the winter and spring seasons through the reduction of motorized use. Management activities are generally avoided during the winter season; however if they occur, activities are concentrated, minimizing impacts to big game in the project area. Openings resulting from management activities minimize the loss or reduction of suitable habitat for big game and reduce the distance animals need to reach hiding and thermal cover.

Mountain Goat Desired Condition - Winter range habitat with minimal human disturbance during the winter season reduces the potential for displacement from winter range habitats and reduces potential mortality.

Wolverine Desired Condition - High elevation cirque basins with minimal human disturbance provide wolverine den sites and reduce the potential for displacement and abandonment of young.

Migratory and Neotropical Birds (terrestrial and aquatic) Desired Condition - Managing vegetation within or toward Class A of the vegetation desired condition, provides habitat for migratory and neotropical bird species. Conservation strategies and plans (such as the North American Landbird Plan) are used to manage habitats and to avoid or reduce risks and/or threats to these species.

Wildlife Monitoring Questions

1. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for connectivity and linkages?
2. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for threatened and endangered wildlife species?
3. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for wildlife species of concern and species of interest?
4. Have management activities met Plan desired objectives and trended toward desired conditions for big game?
5. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward wildlife desired conditions for snags and down wood?

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Watersheds Desired Condition

Watersheds (streams and lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas) have characteristics, processes, and features consistent with their natural potential condition. Water quality, stream channel stability, and aquatic habitats retain their inherent resilience to natural and other disturbances. They maintain their capability to respond to and adjust to disturbances without long-term adverse changes. Favorable conditions of water flow occur in watersheds, streams, lakes, springs, wetlands, and groundwater aquifers to fully support beneficial uses of the water, as well as native aquatic species and their habitats. Water quality meets or exceeds applicable State standards.

Stream channels access their floodplains regularly. These seasonal flows recharge riparian aquifers and provide late season stream flows and cold water temperatures. Channels transport water, sediment, and woody material over time, while maintaining their dimensions (bankfull width, depth, and entrenchment ratios; slope and sinuosity). Stream channels and floodplains are dynamic, but they are resilient to disturbances. The water and sediment balance between streams and their watersheds allow for a natural frequency and magnitude of base flows and flood flows and stream conditions.

National Forest water rights for consumptive and non-consumptive use are sufficient to support instream flows that provide for channel maintenance, water quality, aquatic habitats, and riparian vegetation.

Watershed systems in the IPNF are in Properly Functioning Condition (PFC) or are moving toward PFC. Well-managed healthy watersheds producing clean water supporting beneficial uses, including public water supply are maintained.

Soil Desired Condition

Soil organic matter, soil physical conditions, and coarse woody material are at levels that maintain soil productivity and hydrologic functions in soil. Physical, biological, and chemical properties of soil provide desired vegetative growth and nutrient cycling.

No sustained adverse effects on soil productivity or soil-hydrologic function are evident from management action in IPNF watersheds. Desired levels of coarse woody debris are displayed in the Vegetation desired Condition “[Down Wood \(Coarse Woody Debris\) Forestwide Desired Condition](#)” section on page 1-8. Management actions avoid or fully consider the limitations associated with the sensitive and highly erosive soils and the landtypes that are prone to mass failure on the Forest.

Riparian Habitat Desired Condition

Lands where riparian and aquatic resources receive primary emphasis are known as Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs; see glossary for categories). RCAs have healthy, functioning riparian systems and associated habitats that support well-distributed native and desired non-native plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate communities.

Riparian and aquatic ecosystems, including stream channel integrity, channel processes, and sediment regimes, function characteristically under the conditions in which they evolved. In turn, stream channels provide the structure for desired stream habitat features such as pool frequency, residual pool depth, large woody material, bank stability, lower bank angle, and width-to-depth ratios (see Aquatic Habitat Desired Condition “[Desired Stream Habitat Features](#)” section below on page 1-29).

Water quality provides stable and productive riparian and aquatic ecosystems. Stream water temperatures are within the requirements for salmonid spawning and cold water biota (see Aquatic Habitat Desired Condition “[Desired Stream Habitat Features](#)” section below on page 1-29). Streams and lakes are free of chemical contaminants and do not contain excess nutrients. Sediment levels are within natural condition, supporting salmonid spawning and rearing, and cold water biota requirements (see Aquatic Habitat Desired Condition “[Desired Stream Habitat Features](#)” section below on page 1-29).

Vegetation in RCAs provides:

- amounts and distribution of large woody debris characteristic of natural aquatic and riparian ecosystems.
- adequate summer and winter thermal regulation.
- soil cover and bank stability to help achieve rates of surface erosion, bank erosion, and channel migration characteristic of those under which aquatic and riparian ecosystems developed.

- vertical structure and habitat for riparian-associated bird, mammal, amphibian, fish, and invertebrate species.

Vegetation in RCAs also effectively traps and stores sediment, builds stream banks, and promotes recovery after watershed disturbances.

Riparian vegetation is mainly composed of moist cedar/western hemlock habitat types with a well established diverse herbaceous/shrub layer under an old overstory of moist-site conifer species. Undergrowth may include devil's club, lady fern, starry Solomon-plume, oak-fern, queen's cup beadleily, sweetscented beadstraw, pathfinder, and Pacific yew. Most stands are composed of climax species such as western hemlock, western red cedar, subalpine fir, and Engelmann spruce, although seral species such as western white pine, Douglas-fir, or western larch occur in openings. Hardwood species such as black cottonwood, paper birch, and quaking aspen are found in the flood plains of rivers and streams.

Aquatic Habitat Desired Condition

Waterbodies, riparian vegetation, and adjacent uplands provide habitats that support self-sustaining native and desired nonnative aquatic communities, which include fish, amphibians, invertebrates, plants, and other aquatic-associated species. Aquatic habitats are diverse, with channel characteristics and water quality reflective of the climate, geology, and natural vegetation of the area. Streams, lakes, and rivers provide habitats that contribute toward recovery of threatened and endangered fish species and address the habitat needs of all native aquatic species. Connectivity between waterbodies provides for life history functions (e.g., migration to spawning areas) and for processes such as recolonization of historic habitats.

Desired Stream Habitat Features

Habitat features are influenced by stream gradient, channel and floodplain width, elevation, geology, and other factors. Therefore, while the following criteria generally describe desired habitat conditions, these values are not achievable in all channels.

Stream water temperatures are within the requirements for salmonid spawning and cold water biota and bull trout (see Comprehensive Evaluation Report). Surface fines (6 mm or less) in salmonid spawning substrates are 20 percent or less, and fines by depth are less than 30 percent. Adequate sources of large woody debris are available for both long- and short-term recruitment, and 20 or more pieces of large woody debris per mile are found in forest streams. Large pools (more than one meter deep) for adult holding, juvenile rearing, and overwintering are common (in streams more than three meters wetted width). The average wetted width to maximum depth ratio in pools is 10 or less in appropriate channel types. Seventy-five percent of banks are undercut in meandering nonforested channels. Streambanks are at least 90 percent stable in 80 percent of any stream reach.

Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Over the long-term, habitat is provided that contributes to the support of well-distributed self-sustaining populations of native and desired non-native aquatic species (fish, amphibians, invertebrates, plants and other aquatic-associated species). In the short-term, stronghold populations of native fish continue to thrive and expand into neighboring unoccupied habitats, and depressed populations increase in numbers. Available habitat supports genetic integrity and life history strategies of native fish populations. Cooperation and coordination with state

agencies, federal agencies, tribes, and other groups ensures the upward trend of native and desired non-native aquatic species (e.g., federally listed species, species of concern/species of interest, species of greatest conservation need) and contributes to the State's population goals for native and desired non-native fishes. A greater understanding of many non-game species (e.g., amphibians, invertebrates, and fishes) and plants, including their habitat requirements and effects from human activities, is desired to aid in this upward trend.

Threatened, Endangered, or Proposed Species Desired Condition

Bull trout – Recovery and delisting of bull trout is the long-term desired condition.

Spawning, rearing, and migratory habitat (see "[Aquatic Habitat Desired Condition](#)" on page 1-29") is widely available and fully seeded. Bull trout have access to historic habitat and appropriate life history strategies (e.g., resident, fluvial, and adfluvial) are supported. Bull Trout recovery plan tasks under Forest Service jurisdiction are accomplished. Bull trout populations trend toward recovery through cooperation and coordination with USFWS, state agencies, other federal agencies, and interested groups.

Over the life of the Plan, habitat conditions improve in occupied bull trout streams and connected historically occupied streams. Stronghold population numbers increase. Bull trout habitat and populations continue to be protected through design criteria (see "[Aquatic Species Guidelines](#)" on page 3-11 of Chapter 3) and strategies (see "[Watershed and Aquatic Species Objectives](#)" on page 2-4 of Chapter 2).

Kootenai River white sturgeon - Kootenai River white sturgeon are found within the Forest boundaries; however, the major risks and threats to this species are associated with the Libby Dam and are outside Forest Service jurisdiction. The recovery of Kootenai River white sturgeon is the long-term desired condition.

Aquatic Species of Concern (SOC) and Species of Interest (SOI) Desired Condition

Aquatic species of concern and species of interest have been identified for the Forest can be found in [Appendix A](#) of this Plan. The desired condition for these amphibian and fish species is described above in Aquatic Habitat Desired Condition and Aquatic Species Desired Condition.

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species Monitoring Questions

1. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for water quality and watershed condition?
2. Have management activities been implemented to rehabilitate or restore 303d-listed streams and their associated watersheds?
3. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for soil quality and productivity?
4. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for riparian areas?
5. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for fisheries habitat (structure, composition, function, and connectivity)?
6. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for aquatic and riparian-associated plant and animal species habitat?

Other Topics

American Indian Rights and Interests Desired Condition

The Forest maintains the special and unique legal and political relationships with the tribes as defined by history, treaties, statutes, court decisions, and the U.S. Constitution. The rights and privileges associated with treaties and other agreements pertaining to the IPNF are fulfilled. The Forest is managed to provide resources significant to treaty tribes.

The IPNF recognizes American Indian culture, political integrity, and the Forest Service's responsibility for government-to-government relationships with all federally recognized tribes having aboriginal territory within the boundaries of the IPNF. Traditional and cultural use information, as provided by tribes, is integrated into natural resource management projects. American Indian values are fully considered in planning proposed actions on the Forest. The Forest provides sustainable products, uses, values, and services that will contribute to the American Indians' way of life, cultural integrity, social cohesion, and economic well-being.

Tribal Treaty Rights and Cultural Uses - The IPNF recognizes and maintains culturally significant species and the habitat necessary to support healthy, sustainable, and harvestable plant and animal populations to ensure that rights reserved by Tribes in treaties are not significantly impacted or diminished. The IPNF recognizes, ensures, and accommodates tribal member access to the Forest for the exercise of treaty rights and cultural uses consistent with laws, policies, and regulations.

American Indian Rights and Interests Monitoring Questions

1. Has a communication plan been developed with each Tribe?
2. Has a policy for access and acquisition of forest products for traditional cultural uses been established in consultation with Tribes?

Cooperation and Community Involvement Desired Condition

Cooperative programs, such as agreements, activities, grants, volunteers, and partnerships, are occurring with federal, state, and county agencies; other nongovernmental organizations; and individuals to help achieve Forest goals and improve overall resource management. Information, interpretation, and education programs are provided that communicates forest resource conditions and opportunities.

Cooperation and Community Involvement Monitoring Question

1. To what extent has the IPNF cooperatively worked with federal, state, and county agencies, other nongovernmental organizations, and individuals?

Grazing Desired Condition

Over the life of the Plan and into the future, grazing is sustainable and provides grazing opportunities for current and future generations. Grazing use levels over the past five years have averaged 2,300 head months per year. Over the life of the Plan, grazing continues at or near this level. Allotments that have been vacant or become vacant are closed if there is no demand for the livestock forage or if other resource conditions cannot be met.

Suitable rangelands are limited on the IPNF. Most of the forage produced is transitory forage, following timber harvest activities or fire. Grazing occurs where soil and vegetation conditions are not degraded and at a level that is sustainable. Transitory range, in or adjacent to existing allotments, are used where compatible with the management area suitability, as provided for in individual allotment plans.

Heritage Resources Desired Condition

Cultural sites are inventoried, protected if eligible, and appropriate sites are nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Until evaluated, historic properties are treated as eligible to the National Register. Historic properties evaluated as eligible to the National Register are preserved in place, when possible. Interpretation of heritage resources enhances public understanding and awareness of these resources and the history of the area in and around the IPNF. Knowledge and information about the past is available for public interpretation and natural resource management. Artifacts and records are curated and available for academic research. Looting of sites is reduced through increased public awareness and education about cultural resources.

Heritage Resources Monitoring Questions

1. How many historic properties have been identified, evaluated, and nominated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?
2. How many historic properties have been protected?

Lands Desired Condition

Land ownership is adjusted (acquired or conveyed) to provide reasonable access, or improve efficiency of NFS land management. Boundaries are surveyed and clearly posted and occupancy trespass is eliminated. Rights-of-way and strategic easements are acquired to provide reasonable public and administrative access. Clear titles to NFS lands are retained. Special use authorizations are made to meet forest management and public needs.

Minerals Desired Condition

Mineral materials are provided at appropriate use levels and in response to demand. Locatable and leasable mineral exploration and development is compatible with ecosystem capabilities and other resource values. Reclamation of abandoned mine sites occurs where human health risks exist. Areas that are not appropriate for locatable mineral entry are withdrawn.

Mineral Monitoring Question

1. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward desired conditions for reclaimed mine sites?

Other Forest Products Desired Condition

Over the life of the Plan and into the future, other forest products are sustainable and provide products for current and future generations. Gathering of other forest products (e.g., huckleberries, firewood, and mushrooms) occurs within sustainable Forest capabilities. The

firewood program augments timber harvest and fuel reduction projects to capitalize on opportunities for providing firewood.

Social and Economic Systems Desired Condition

The Forest provides a variety of uses, values, benefits, products, services, and visitor opportunities (termed “outputs and values”). These outputs and values are described in the desired conditions for all resources in this Chapter. Over the life of the Plan and into the future, they are provided in a sustainable manner for current and future generations.

Some outputs and values are a result of the natural environment, such as opportunities for solitude, and spiritual and scenic values. Other outputs and values are commodity products, achieved through forest management, permits, and contracts. The IPNF contributes to the local economy through the generation of jobs and income while creating products for use, both nationally and locally.

The outputs and values provided by the IPNF contribute to the quality of lifestyles in the Plan area and stable communities. The IPNF is perceived as providing a range of benefits to local communities, including the following:

- Recreational opportunities are an important perceived benefit of the Forest. Individuals and groups with diverse recreational interest value the available opportunities to pursue outdoor activities close to their residence and place of work.
- Open space is a significant value for residents who see the Forest as integral to the qualities of community and place of this region. Open space contributes to the rural character of communities.
- Economic value exists in the resources that can be extracted from NFS lands (e.g., minerals, timber, and other plant material) and in the scenic, amenity, and recreational resources that attract visitors.
- Fiscal benefits accrue to counties from Payments in Lieu of Taxes, funds from the Secure Rural Schools and Self-Determination Act of 2000, timber tax, and other federal payments related to NFS lands.
- Existence benefits are associated with special places (e.g., wilderness and roadless areas) and resources (e.g., grizzly bear) as well as within the Forest as a whole. For example, providing habitat for diverse plants and wildlife and ecological conditions that contribute to water quality.
- The Forest also contributes leadership, organizational skills, facilities, and other resources to communities. Agency personnel also participate as community members in clubs, organizations, volunteer efforts, and other elements of community life. There is also some economic contribution when purchases can be made locally.
- Wildfire risk is associated with living within or near the Forest. To the extent possible, the Forest contributes to the protection of communities and individuals from wildfire within the limits of firefighter safety and budgets.

Social and Economic Systems Monitoring Questions

1. How many jobs and how much income in the planning area results from IPNF management?

2. What is the percentage of jobs and income from IPNF management compared to the area's total employment and income?
3. How have social indicators (persons in poverty by age grouping, physician per thousand persons; educational attainment, school enrollments, and population dependency ratios) changed?

Wild and Scenic Rivers (Congressionally Designated Eligible, and Suitable) Desired Conditions

See [Management Areas 2a and 2b](#) on pages 2-16 and 2-18 in Chapter 2.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Monitoring Question

1. Has each eligible river segment met Plan desired conditions?

Wilderness, Recommended Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and Primitive Lands Desired Condition

See [Management Area 1a for wilderness](#) on page 2-11; [MA1b for recommended wilderness](#) on page 2-12; [MA1c for wilderness study areas](#) on page 2-14; and [MA 1e for primitive lands](#) on page 2-15 in Chapter 2.

Wilderness, Recommended Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and Primitive Lands Monitoring Question

1. Have management activities met Plan objectives and trended toward management area desired conditions for existing wilderness, recommended wilderness, wilderness study areas, and primitive lands while maintaining appropriate recreation opportunities?

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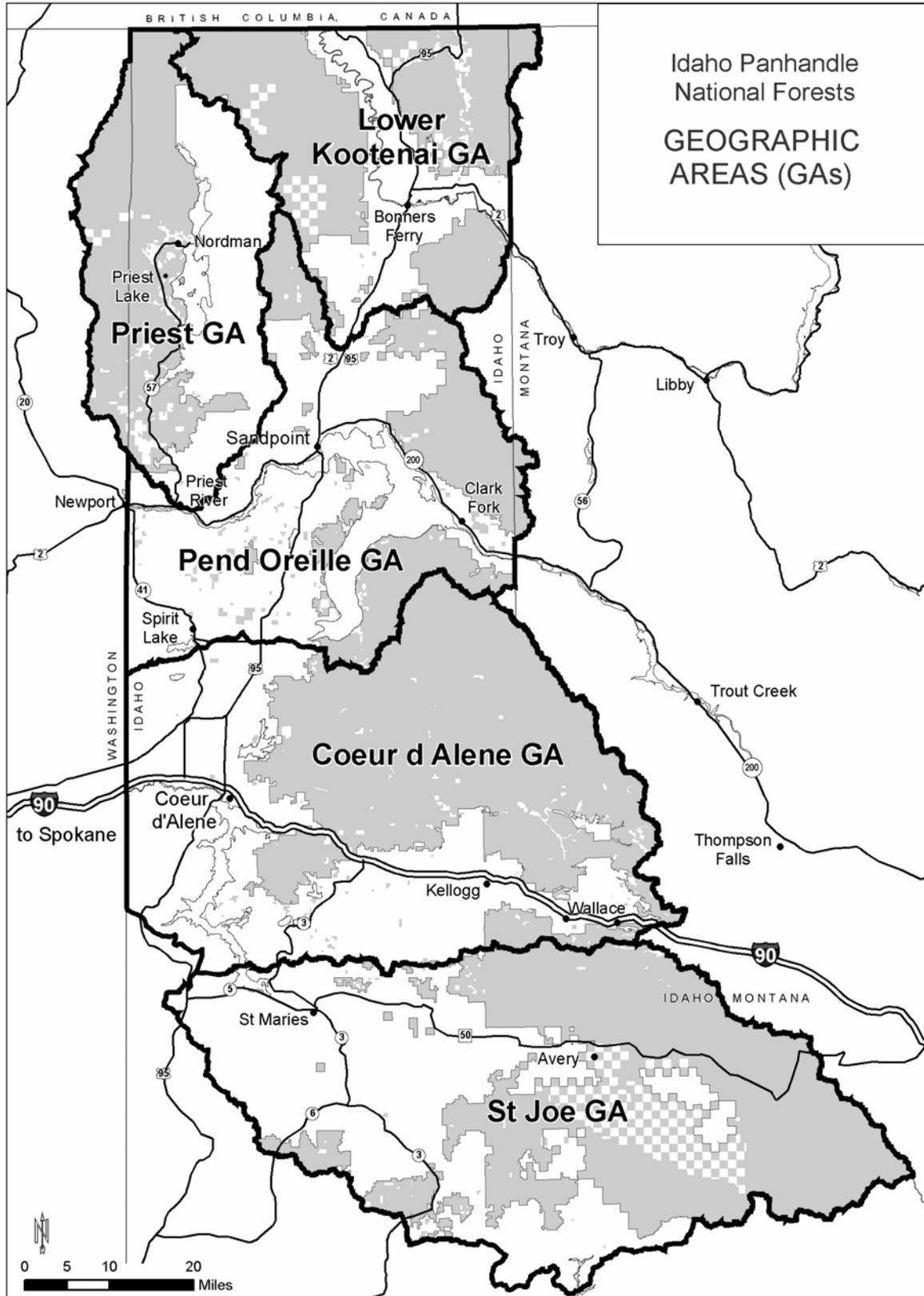


Figure 11. Geographic areas in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Geographic Areas Desired Conditions

Introduction

While the Forestwide desired conditions describe trends that we would expect to see across the Forest, we recognize that individual places across the IPNF have their own distinct characteristics and conditions. These places are referred to as “geographic areas” (GA), such as a river basin or valley and the GA desired conditions reflect community values and local conditions for that area. However, they do not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions. The IPNF has been divided into the following five geographic areas (see Figure 11 on preceding page).

- Coeur d’Alene
- Lower Kootenai
- Pend Oreille
- Priest
- St. Joe

Geographic Areas

Each geographic area section on the following pages provides:

- Geographic area map displaying special areas, locator features, campgrounds, and major roads and streams.
- General location, description and unique features providing a brief characterization of the area.
- Resource-specific description and desired conditions, describing a “place-based” picture of the Forestwide desired condition for applicable resources.
- Management area composition table for each geographic area.

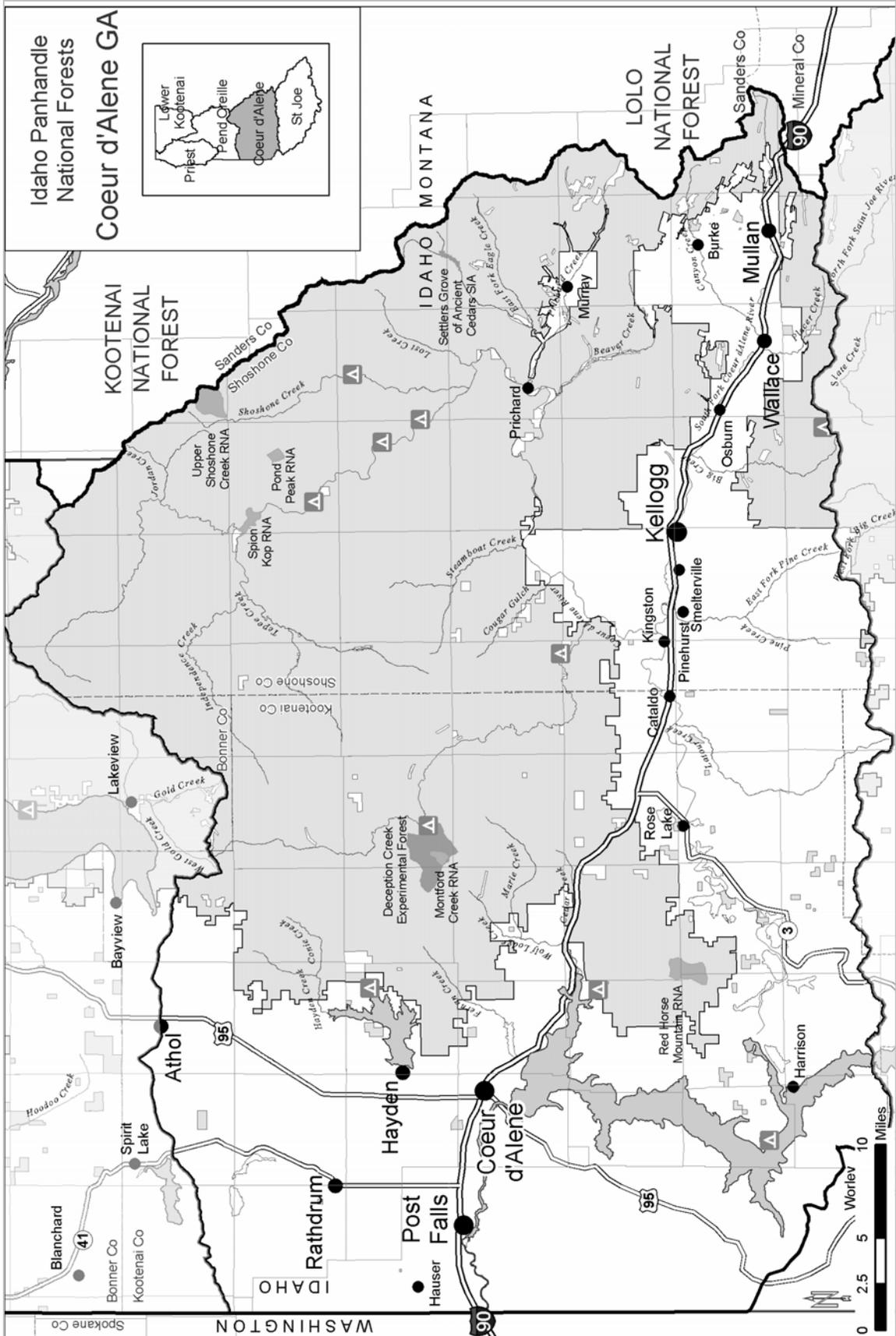


Figure 12. Coeur d'Alene GA

Coeur d'Alene Geographic Area

General Location, Description, and Unique Features

The Coeur d'Alene Geographic Area (GA) lies predominantly within Kootenai and Shoshone Counties in Idaho, with small portions in the adjacent counties of Bonner and Benewah. Of the 1,415,000 acres within this GA, 727,000 acres (51 percent) are administered by the IPNF. The GA is comprised of the Coeur d'Alene River Basin and parts of the Rathdrum Prairie and is the closest GA to the major cities of Spokane, Washington and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Kootenai County is experiencing significant growth in population, with an associated increase in home development adjacent to NFS lands. Mining and logging have been important industries in this area since the 1800s.

This is the most uniform GA on the IPNF with the exception of the eastern boundary, which is formed by the main ridge of the Bitterroot Mountains. Most of the GA is composed of moderate elevation rolling mountains that were largely un-glaciated.

Unique features within this GA include:

- Lookout Pass Ski Area
- Snowmobile Trails and Play Areas
- Settlers Grove of Ancient Cedars
- English Point National Recreation Trail
- Pulaski Trail and 1910 Fire History
- Historic Coeur d'Alene Mining District
- Historic White Pine forests
- Little North Fork and North Fork Coeur d'Alene River recreation corridors
- Magee Historic Ranger Station
- Deception Creek Experimental Forest
- Coeur d'Alene Tree Nursery

Geographic Area Desired Condition

The following desired condition discussion is specific to this GA. The desired condition for this GA does not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions found earlier in this chapter that are applicable to all geographic and management areas.

Access and Recreation

Because of the proximity to Coeur d'Alene and Spokane, recreation use in this GA is heavy. This GA contains several hundred miles of trails; many of these are open to motorized use. OHV recreation is popular in this GA, as are fishing, boating, hunting, dispersed camping, snowmobiling, and skiing. Current road and trail access for this area is guided by the 2003 Travel Plan Map for the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District.

Access and Recreation Desired Condition

Visitor information services are emphasized to improve use experiences and educate users on good stewardship. Many users are day visitors that use the area for a wide array of activities. The primary river corridors in the Forest (North Fork Coeur d'Alene and Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene Rivers) are managed for a variety of developed and dispersed recreational opportunities. Emphasis within these river corridors is to maintain access to various developed and dispersed sites while protecting the rivers and riparian resources from degradation. High use areas such as Bumblebee Meadows and Lake Elsie are evaluated for necessary improvements to facilitate access while protecting resource values. Several areas including Lookout Pass Ski Area, Canfield Mountain, the Fourth of July Pass area, and English Point emphasize recreation management as the primary land use.

Motorized use is intensively managed to provide quality experiences while protecting sensitive riparian areas and water quality. Opportunities for loop trail systems are evaluated and created, where appropriate. Roads being decommissioned are reviewed for both motorized and nonmotorized trail opportunities. Trail systems are clearly identified for appropriate uses and seasons of use. A variety of winter trails provide motorized and nonmotorized opportunities. These winter trail systems disperse users to off-trail opportunities. Recreation cabin and lookout rentals are maintained and opportunities for additional rentals are examined.

Vegetation and Fire

Approximately 75 percent of NFS lands are in the warm/moist biophysical settings with most of the remainder in the warm/dry setting. Those drier settings are largely along the western and southwestern boundaries of the GA, in watersheds facing Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Rathdrum Prairie. On this western perimeter, the dominant historic vegetation was in fire-shaped stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir, with grand fir, western redcedar, and western hemlock occupying the moister slope positions and aspects. Today, these same sites are occupied by denser stands of Douglas-fir and grand fir, with ponderosa pine playing a more minor role. In the moist interior that makes up most of the Coeur d'Alene, the historic vegetation was moist mixed conifer, with western white pine dominating over 40 percent of the stands, and grand fir, western hemlock, and western redcedar playing subordinate roles except in riparian zones and very moist slope positions. Today, the dominant vegetation is still moist mixed conifer; but grand fir, western hemlock, and Douglas-fir dominate over 75 percent of the landscape and western white pine has been reduced to approximately 2 percent (largely as a result of blister rust). The Bitterroot Mountain main ridge and Grizzly ridge are the only areas high enough in elevation to provide extensive cool and cold subalpine biophysical settings, and they only total about 5 percent of the GA. These high elevation areas do contain the northernmost extensive mountain hemlock stands in Idaho. The only extensive areas dominated by lodgepole pine are on the Idaho/Montana border, mostly in this subalpine zone.

The southern and northern thirds of the GA were strongly impacted by large, severe wildfires in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These old burns have now largely regenerated to dense immature and mature sawtimber stands. With the advent of modern fire suppression, there have been few large fires in the GA since 1931, and this has contributed to vegetation change. The middle third of the GA generally escaped those large fires. In the early to mid-20th century, this area was generally dominated by mature and old growth forests. Between the 1960s and 1980s, much of this middle portion of the GA was harvested to meet timber demand. Today, this portion is generally a mosaic of regenerated clearcuts and residual mature/old forest patches of various sizes. Due to the large fires, blister rust, and subsequent harvest patterns, the Coeur d'Alene GA

has less than one-third of its mean historic old growth acreage, the least of any geographic area on the IPNF. Although old harvest units are a major feature of the middle one-third of the GA, these are rapidly growing into pole stands. As a result, the GA has somewhat less than the mean historic amount of very early structural stages.

Vegetation Desired Condition

Vegetation trends toward Class A (see Figures 5 through 8 in “[Vegetation Desired Condition](#)” section on pages 1-11 through 1-13 in this Chapter) on moist sites and dry sites where landscapes have been substantially altered. This includes Teepee Creek (above Independence Creek), Upper Little North Fork of the Coeur d’Alene River, and Hayden Creek. Old growth patch size is increased in the middle one-third of the GA.

Public education is emphasized to reduce potential for noxious weed spread associated with heavy motorized recreation use and new infestations are aggressively treated. Vegetative restoration projects are designed in a collaborative environment to gain public ownership and acceptance.

Fire Desired Condition

Fire risk is reduced adjacent to communities and structures in the Silver Valley, in the vicinity of the North Fork of the Coeur d’Alene River, around Hayden and Coeur d’Alene Lakes, and in other rural communities adjacent to NFS land within the GA. Biomass produced from projects designed to reduce fire risk is made available as an alternate energy source for fuels for schools programs, such as in the community of Kellogg, and other similar efforts. Fire prevention programs and county fire mitigation plans are emphasized due to expanding wildland-urban interface of nearby communities and increasing recreation use.

Wildlife

Big game habitat in the Forest is managed in conjunction with the very high demand for recreational use (including snowmobiling, off road vehicle use, hunting, and fishing) from the large communities of Coeur d’Alene and Spokane. Although no portion of the GA is within a designated recovery area for grizzly bear, they are known to occur in the upper northeast portion of the GA. In the last decade, wolf populations have recolonized north Idaho, with some wolves coming from the northwest Montana recovery area, and others coming from the southern Idaho experimental reintroduced population.

Wildlife Desired Condition

Motorized use occurs on managed routes that avoid important wildlife habitat. Native vegetation is dominant on the landscape and with a reduction in noxious weeds on winter ranges provides forage for wildlife in the area. Because of the GA’s proximity to large urban centers including Coeur d’Alene, Idaho and Spokane, Washington, environmental learning opportunities are promoted for forest visitors to learn about wildlife, especially threatened and endangered species, species of concern and species of interest.

The Idaho/Montana divide provides habitat (with minimal human-caused disturbance and development) for wildlife movement between the Salmon and Selway/Bitterroot wilderness areas and Canada’s potential source populations. Roadless areas in the North Fork of the Coeur d’Alene River drainage provide wildlife security in a GA with otherwise high levels of recreation use (motorized and nonmotorized).

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species

The Coeur d’Alene River originates from two principle forks that are defined by the Coeur d’Alene and St. Joe Mountains. The North Fork, the largest tributary, is dominated by NFS lands and has been a major source of wood products for the region. The South Fork is smaller, but its extraordinary mineral deposits have had a long history of mining and milling. A few large mines remain in the Silver Valley east of Coeur d’Alene at Wallace, Silverton, Kellogg, and Mullan along Interstate 90. An EPA-designated “Superfund” site is located on the South Fork, as well as many other mine and mill sites; these have been adversely affecting water quality and the support of beneficial uses downstream. The lower Coeur d’Alene River has been especially impacted with residual metals in its vast flood-prone areas and wetlands, and these metals have been found in Lake Coeur d’Alene and the Spokane River. Many waterbody segments within the GA have been identified on the State of Idaho’s impaired waterbodies (303(d)) list.

Westslope cutthroat trout populations are found throughout the area, including stronghold populations in several tributaries in the North Fork Coeur d’Alene River. These streams support popular recreational fisheries, as do Coeur d’Alene Lake and Hayden Lake. Bull trout historically inhabited the waters in this GA, but are now mostly absent. Kokanee, Chinook salmon, and bass provide popular non-native recreational fisheries. Legacy effects from mining, timber harvest and roads continue to affect fish habitat in parts of the GA.

Watersheds and Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Watersheds trend toward properly functioning condition physically and habitat provides for expansion of self-sustaining populations of native aquatic species. In the Coeur d’Alene River subbasin, the recovery of extirpated bull trout and the expansion of westslope cutthroat trout stronghold populations are emphasized. Pollutants are reduced and impaired waterbodies are eventually delisted. Public water supplies (e.g., Big Creek, Placer Creek) continue to be protected.

Management Area Composition

Table 4 displays the acres identified within each management area for the Coeur d’Alene GA.

Table 4. Coeur d’Alene GA management area acres

Management Area	Management Area Name	Acres	Percentage of GA Acres
2b	Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	29,900	4%
3	Special Interest Area	200	<1%
4a	Established or Proposed Research Natural Area	3,600	<1%
4b	Experimental Forest	3,200	<1%
5	Backcountry	136,900	19%
6	General Forest	546,200	75%
7	Primary Recreation Area	7,400	1%
	Total NFS Lands	727,400	

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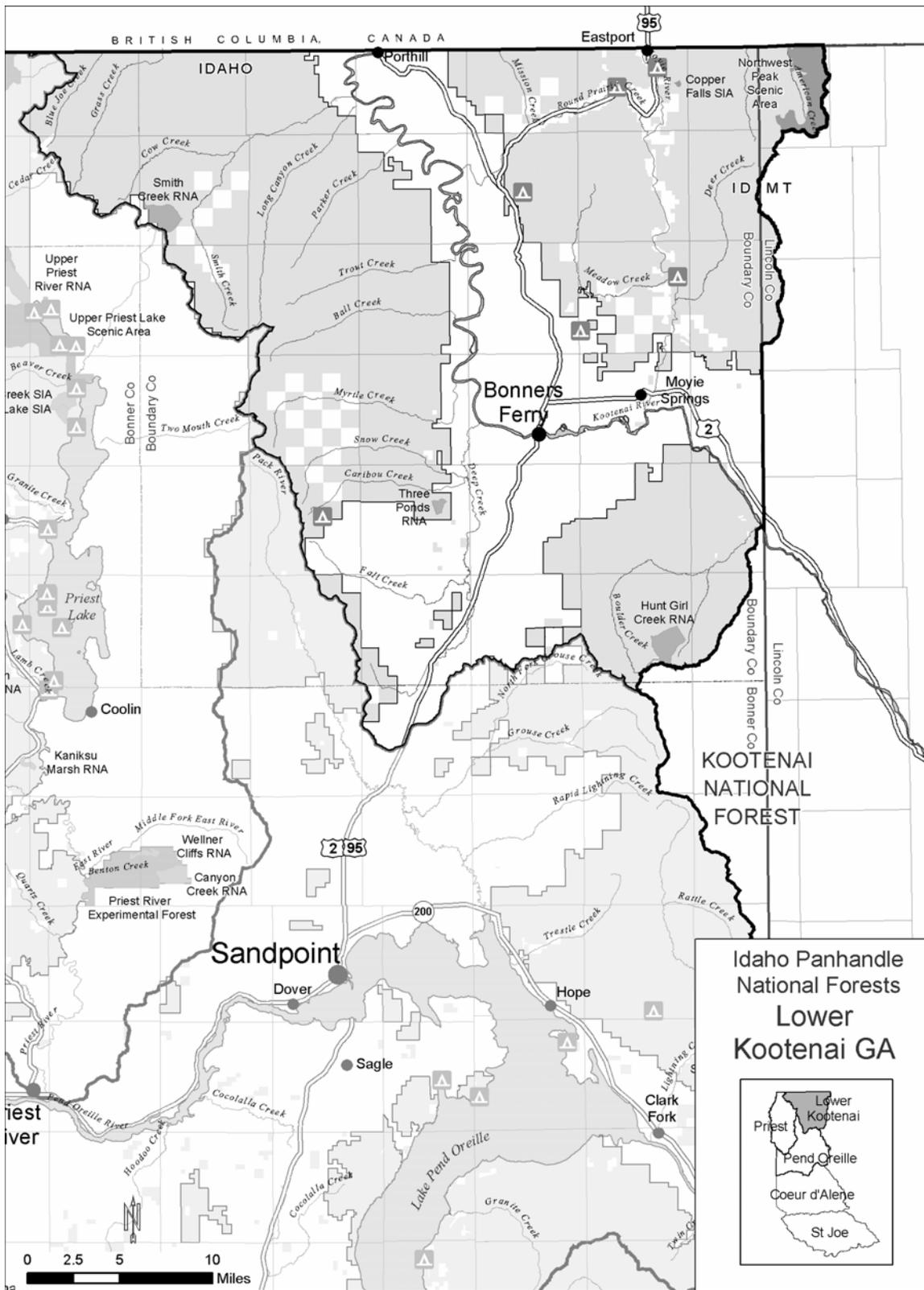


Figure 13. Lower Kootenai GA

Lower Kootenai Geographic Area

General Location, Description, and Unique Features

The Lower Kootenai Geographic Area lies predominantly within Boundary County in Idaho, which is adjacent to British Columbia. Small portions of the GA lie in Bonner County, Idaho and Lincoln County, Montana. Of the 659,000 acres within this GA, 409,000 acres (62 percent) are administered by the IPNF. Communities include Bonners Ferry, Moyie Springs, Naples, Eastport, Porthill, and many rural residences, farms and ranches. The Lower Kootenai GA has had a historic reliance on logging and a strong connection with the wood products industry.

The GA extends from the high crest of the rugged Selkirk Mountains on the west, down steep, high-relief watersheds draining out of the Selkirks into the low elevation Kootenai River Valley, and then east back up to the crest of the Purcell Mountains in the northwest corner of Montana. The GA also includes the Cabinet Mountains that straddle Idaho and Montana. Virtually this entire GA was glaciated, with a lobe of the continental glacier extending down the major valleys. Mountain glaciers covered most of the remaining area and carved steep, high relief mountain watersheds. The recent glaciation has contributed to the high diversity of this GA.

Unique features within this GA include:

- Copper and Snow Falls
- Snyder Guard Station Rental
- Shorty Peak and Deer Ridge Lookout Rentals
- Kootenai and Moyie Rivers
- Most high elevation mountain lakes on the IPNF
- Roman Nose Lakes
- Extensive Grizzly Bear and Caribou Habitat
- Peatland habitats, such as Cow Creek and Grass Creek

Geographic Area Desired Condition

The following desired condition discussion is specific to this GA. The desired condition for this GA does not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions found earlier in this chapter that are applicable to all geographic and management areas.

Access and Recreation

Recreation use in this area is varied. Hunting, fishing, hiking, and gathering (huckleberries, mushrooms, and firewood) are popular activities. Rafting on the Moyie River is common. Mostly accessed by foot or horseback, the Selkirk Crest is another popular destination within this GA. Current road and trail access for this area is portrayed on the 2004 Travel Plan Map for the Kaniksu National Forest.

Access and Recreation Desired Condition

The Bonners Ferry Ranger District emphasizes dispersed recreation opportunities, and smaller, less developed, day-use and overnight sites throughout the district. Secluded acres of backcountry with moderate to easy access provide motorized and nonmotorized recreation opportunities.

Rental facilities, including several lookouts and Snyder Guard Station, are maintained and improved as budgets allow. Summer trails across the district offer both motorized and nonmotorized opportunities. Summer trail access to the Selkirk Crest is maintained through a number of trailheads along the east side of the Selkirk Mountains. A viable winter trail system is available predominantly for motorized users that provide access to a range of winter trail experiences and appropriate off-trail opportunities across the district. The district continues to maintain strong partnerships with a wide array of groups assisting with recreation facility and trail maintenance and operations.

Vegetation and Fire

Approximately half of this GA is in the warm/moist biophysical setting, with 38 percent of that area in the subalpine setting. The remainder of the GA that is in the warm/dry setting is mostly concentrated on lower elevation south and west facing aspects near the valleys, and in the valley bottom. Historically, the warm/dry settings were predominantly low to moderate density ponderosa pine mixed with Douglas-fir and western larch. Today they are mixed conifer with relatively dense immature Douglas-fir dominating a higher percentage of stands, and ponderosa pine reduced to a more subordinate role. Historically the warm/moist settings contained diverse moist mixed conifer stands of western white pine, western larch, Douglas-fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, and grand fir, with about 2/3 of these stands dominated by western white pine or western larch. Today the dominant vegetation is still mixed conifer, but heavily dominated by Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, and grand fir. Almost 95 percent of the western white pine has been lost (mostly to blister rust). Although a substantial western larch component remains, it doesn't play as dominant a role as historically because the mixed-severity fire that favored western larch has been virtually eliminated.

The higher elevation cooler subalpine settings were historically dominated by a mixture of Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir and lodgepole, with a strong western larch component at the lower elevation portion of the subalpine. The highest slopes and ridgetops of the Selkirks historically contained the largest contiguous whitebark pine population in Idaho, north of the Clearwater River. Overall, the moist/cool subalpine settings are the least changed from historic conditions. However, substantial amounts of mature and old growth spruce have been lost to a combination of spruce beetle and harvest. After years of slow decline due to white pine blister rust and fire suppression, the Selkirk Mountains whitebark pine has recently accelerated into more rapid decline as a result of a severe extensive, multi-year mountain pine beetle attack. The largest concentrations of lodgepole pine are in watersheds near the Montana border that burned within the last 100 years. This lodgepole pine occupies moist and cool settings ranging from near the valley floor to upper mountain slopes.

Although large areas of the GA were affected by fires in the late 19th and early 20th century, large areas of old and mature forest do remain, mostly in the Selkirks. The large fires of the 1960s and the 2003 Myrtle Creek fire are the largest in the IPNF in the last 70 years, but in total, burned much less than might have been typical under historic scenarios. Although the lower Kootenai has lost about one-third of its old growth compared to mean historic amounts, this is a smaller loss than any other GA. Mature forest stands are present in greater amounts than the mean historic condition, although their composition is changed from historic conditions. Compared to the rest of the IPNF, the Lower Kootenai and the adjacent Priest Geographic area are distinguished by the following characteristics:

- relatively high amounts of remaining old growth and mature forest in large blocks compared to other GAs;
- noteworthy large high integrity landscape identified by North Zone Geographic Assessment in northern one-third of Priest subbasin and adjacent Northern Selkirk Mountains of Lower Kootenai;
- extensive rare plant communities with both moist coastal disjunct and boreal species;
- peatland settings and plant communities;
- more larch than other GAs.

Vegetation Desired Condition

Vegetation trends toward Class A where landscapes have been substantially altered (see Figures 2–10 in “Vegetation Desired Condition” in this chapter). This includes Boulder Creek, East Face Selkirks, Long Canyon-Parker, Boundary-Smith and Moyie-Kootenai landscapes.

Ponderosa pine and western larch (where appropriate) on lower elevation south and west aspects (warm/dry biophysical settings) that are adjacent to and within valley bottoms trend toward Class A. Whitebark pine abundance increases in the high elevation sites and ridgetops and exist as low to moderate density forests similar to historical conditions. Long-lived seral species trend toward Class A in the lower subalpine setting where currently mature lodgepole pine dominates.

Fire Desired Condition

Threats of wildfire for the communities of Bonners Ferry, Moyie Springs, Naples, Eastport, Porthill, Copeland, and Moravia as well as outlying communities and structures, and Highways 2, 95, and 200 corridors are reduced.

Wildlife

This GA encompasses portions of two grizzly bear recovery zones (the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak), as well as a large portion of the South Selkirk caribou recovery area. It contains populations of gray wolves and Canada lynx, as well as a diversity of big game species, including mountain goats and some of the highest white-tailed deer densities in the State. All large carnivore species found in the Northern Rockies, including fisher and wolverine, are present in the GA. The area also contains a variety of avian species, including nesting bald eagles and numerous documented northern goshawk nests.

Wildlife Desired Condition

The forest, with minimal human-caused disturbance and development, provides for wildlife (including grizzly bear and wide ranging carnivores) movement between the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones.

The Selkirk Mountains continue to provide habitats, in sufficient quantity and quality, to meet all of the seasonal needs of woodland caribou, including a high percentage of old growth. Mid and high elevation areas with cliffs and/or rock outcrops and minimal human disturbance provide winter range habitat for mountain goats in the Selkirks. Additionally, this GA will provide habitat conditions suitable for winter use by woodland caribou, grizzly bear, and wolverine denning and rearing activities, as well as secure habitats for elk and other big game.

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species

This GA includes the Lower Kootenai River where it flows from Montana northwest into Idaho, up to the border with Canada. Water quality is generally good in the western tributary watersheds to the Kootenai River, which supports high-valued fisheries. Upstream flow regulation in Montana controls the mainstem Kootenai River, altering native wetlands and aquatic habitats. The tributaries to the Moyie River and Deep Creek are generally in poorer condition, with fisheries of a lesser potential surrounded by a complex ownership pattern. Restoration needs are extensive, but the priority is lower than other areas. Some waterbody segments in the GA are identified in the State of Idaho’s impaired waterbodies (303(d)) list.

Bull trout and other native salmonids have historically occupied most of the waters of the area; however, their numbers and range are limited. Bull trout populations are small and scattered. Most streams have steep mouths that prevent fish from migrating from the main Kootenai River into the tributaries. The Kootenai River contains burbot and listed white sturgeon. Interior redband trout (native rainbow) are found in some tributaries. Kokanee and rainbow trout are desirable non-native species within this GA. A few lakes in this GA are stocked with introduced grayling and golden trout.

Watersheds and Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Watersheds trend towards properly functioning condition physically and trend the native aquatic species toward self-sustaining populations. Few tributaries are accessible to migratory fish from the Kootenai River in this subbasin due to natural migration barriers. Habitat contributes to improved populations of native aquatic species (including Kootenai River white sturgeon and burbot, which are found only in this subbasin in the IPNF) and non-native sport fish consistent with the State’s population goals. Public water supplies (e.g., Myrtle, Twentymile, Brown, and Mission Creeks) are protected and pollutants of concern decrease in 303(d)-listed watersheds (e.g., Lower Boundary, Deep, Cow, Boundary above Grass -Blue Joe, Caribou, Deer and Meadow Creeks).

Management Area Composition

Table 5 displays the acres identified within each management area for the Lower Kootenai GA

Table 5. Lower Kootenai GA management area acres

Management Area	Management Area Name	Acres	Percentage of GA Acres
1b	Recommended Wilderness	35,000	9%
2b	Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	1,400	<1%
3	Special Interest Area	4,700	1%
4a	Established or Proposed Research Natural Area	2,900	1%
5	Backcountry	91,500	22%
6	General Forest	273,500	67%
	Total NFS Lands	409,000	

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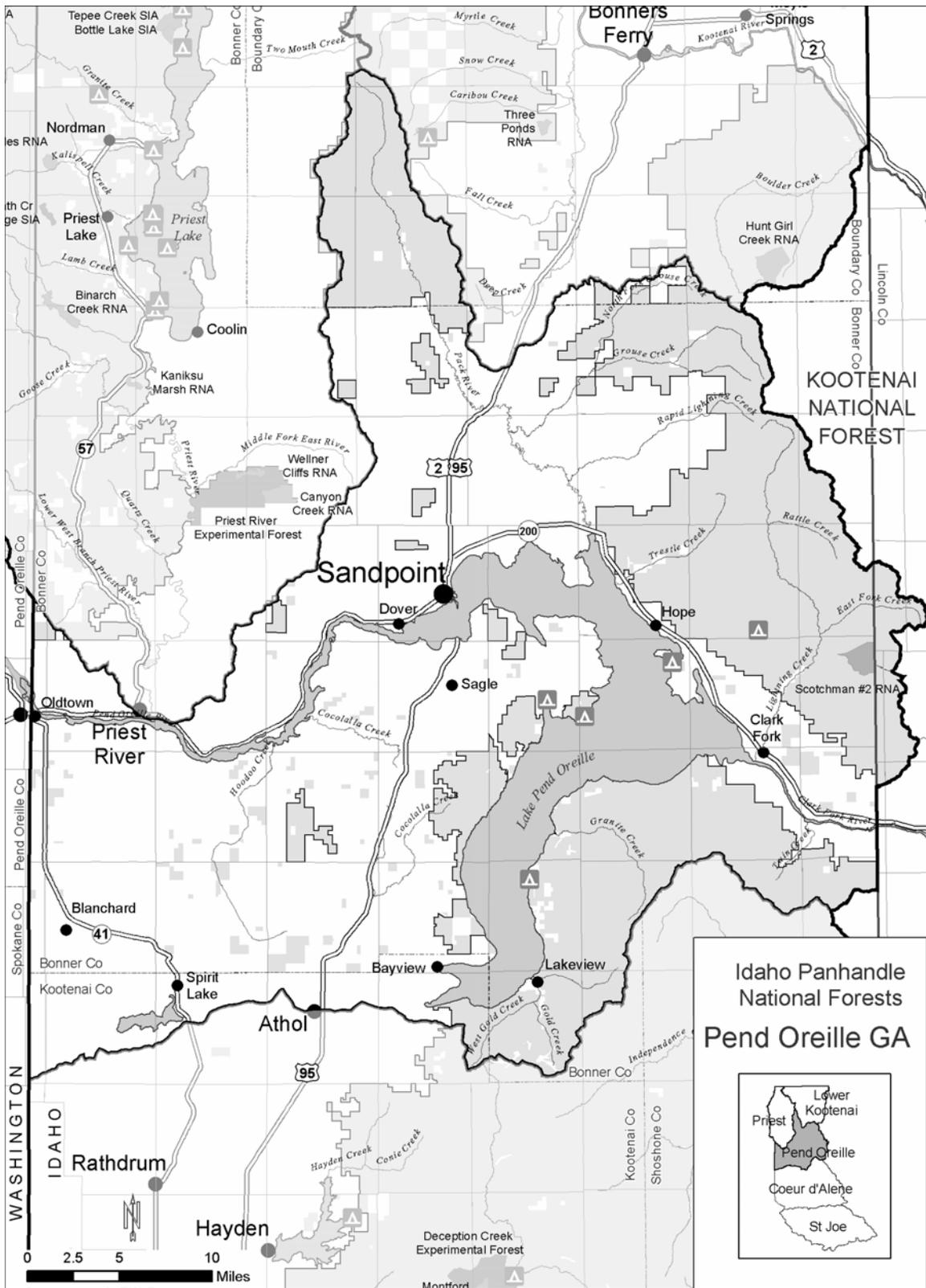


Figure 14. Pend Oreille GA

Pend Oreille Geographic Area

General Location, Description, and Unique Features

The Pend Oreille Geographic Area lies predominantly within Bonner and Boundary counties in Idaho, with small portions in Kootenai County, Idaho and Sanders and Lincoln Counties in Montana. Of the 908,000 acres within this GA, 314,000 acres (35 percent) are administered by the IPNF. Bonner County has been experiencing a large increase in population over the last several decades, resulting in an increase in homes adjacent to NFS lands. Sandpoint is the largest community within this GA; however, there are several smaller communities surrounding the lake.

Lake Pend Oreille is a prominent feature in this GA. It is the largest lake in Idaho, the fifth-deepest lake in the nation, and surrounded by rugged glacier-carved peaks of the Selkirk Mountains to the north, Coeur d'Alene Mountains to the south, and Cabinet Mountains to the east.

Unique features within this GA include:

- Lake Pend Oreille
- Extensive NFS lands around Lake Pend Oreille
- Grouse Creek Falls
- Lunch Peak rental lookout
- Scotchman Peaks recommended wilderness
- Sam Owen campground
- Packsaddle Mountain Elk Quality Hunt Area
- High elevation, alpine lakes in the Cabinet and Selkirk Mountains

Geographic Area Desired Condition

The following desired condition discussion is specific to this GA. The desired condition for this GA does not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions found earlier in this chapter that are applicable to all geographic and management areas.

Access and Recreation

Campgrounds and dispersed campsites adjacent to Lake Pend Oreille receive heavy use during peak summer months. Sam Owen campground is the largest campground in the northern portion of the IPNF and receives the most use. However, several other non-fee sites around the lake receive heavy use by boaters as well as motorized users. The Cabinet and Selkirk Mountains offer hiking, mountain bike and horseback trails as well as access to high mountain lakes. Current road and trail access for this area is portrayed on the 2004 Travel Plan Map for the Kaniksu National Forest. Winter snowmobiling is popular in the Pack River and Trestle Creek drainages as well as the southeast end of the GA. Groomed trails are an essential component of these activities.

Access and Recreation Desired Condition

The population in the Sandpoint area is growing rapidly and uses this portion of the IPNF for a wide array of recreational opportunities. The Sandpoint Ranger District emphasizes management of developed and dispersed recreation sites and facilities on the shores of Lake Pend Oreille. These various overnight and day-use areas along the lakeshore provide a range of opportunities

from highly developed campgrounds to unimproved dispersed sites. Areas near the town of Sandpoint are maintained and developed for day use as resources become available, such as the Gold Hill and Mickinnick trails. Motorized trail opportunities are evaluated and developed as resources become available on the south and west side of Lake Pend Oreille. Nonmotorized opportunities are emphasized in the Selkirk Mountains, Cabinet Mountains, and the Scotchman Peaks recommended wilderness area. The District works with partners and cooperators to maintain a viable winter and summer motorized trail system. Opportunities are examined to connect the District's trail system with neighboring trail systems providing links with other communities.

Vegetation and Fire

Approximately two-thirds of this GA is in the warm/moist biophysical setting with the remainder split between the warm/dry and the subalpine settings. The dominant vegetation is mixed conifer; mostly Douglas-fir/grand fir/western hemlock, at low and mid-elevations, and subalpine fir at higher elevations. Vast areas within this GA were burned in wildfires between the late 1800s and early 1930s. Since the advent of modern fire suppression, only the large Sundance fire in 1967 and the Kilroy fire in 1991 have provided disturbances consistent with historic scales. Both of these fires were human-caused.

Historically, early seral, potentially long-lived, shade-intolerant, fire-adapted forest types (ponderosa pine, western larch, western white pine and whitebark pine) occupied 55 percent of this GA. Currently, they occupy 11 percent. Much of this land currently consists of Douglas-fir and grand fir forest types, with Douglas-fir increasing approximately 150 percent and occupies over a third of the landscape. Historically, the late seral, shade-tolerant, fire and drought sensitive forest types (grand fir/western hemlock/western red cedar) occupy 6 percent of the land. Currently, they occupy 25 percent. Much of this increase is in grand fir forests, with significant amounts occurring on the driest land that can support this forest type.

Size classes have also changed due to the combination of recent historical wildfires, past timber harvesting and fire suppression. Corresponding with the increase in Douglas-fir and grand fir forest types, has been a 70 percent increase in medium sized forests. Much of this size class has replaced the older, open ponderosa pine/western larch/Douglas-fir, and is particularly significant in the dry setting landscapes east and northeast of Lake Pend Oreille, and the low elevation forests west of the lake. Overall, old growth forests have been reduced by over 60 percent from historical conditions.

Vegetation Desired Condition

Vegetation trends toward Class A (see Figures 2 through 8 in [“Vegetation Desired Condition”](#) on pages 1-5 through 1-13 in this chapter) where landscapes have been altered. This includes Gold Creek, southeast Pend Oreille, northeast Pend Oreille, lower Lightning and lower portion of Upper Pack Creek landscapes. Seral species are increased on the grand fir habitat types.

Dry sites adjacent to Lake Pend Oreille have open forest conditions that reduce the risk of severe fire disturbances. The Scotchman Peaks recommended wilderness and other backcountry areas are weed free.

Fire Desired Condition

Forest health is improved and hazardous fuels are reduced by changing/maintaining condition class in the wildland urban interface. Potential fire intensity and severity decrease in the forested

lands near the communities of Sandpoint, Hope, Sagle, Ponderay, and the rural residences around Lake Pend Oreille. Fire-adapted ecosystems beyond the wildland urban interface trend toward resilience to natural disturbance regimes.

Wildlife

Big game habitat is managed in conjunction with the very high demand for recreational use (including snowmobiling, off road vehicle use, hunting and fishing) from the communities of Sandpoint and Priest River, the larger, nearby communities of Coeur d'Alene and Spokane, and the large percentage of private and multi-ownership lands in the area. A small portion of this GA is within the recovery area for the South Selkirk woodland caribou herd and the Selkirk grizzly bear recovery zone, while a larger portion is within the Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zone. The only known peregrine falcon nest site in the IPNF is in this GA. National Forest System lands east of Lake Pend Oreille provide habitat for several big game species, but in particular elk. An area closure (from 3 weeks prior to the end of the elk rifle season) on the south end of the GA provides a very popular walk-in only hunting experience as well as a secure area for big game during this timeframe. The area contains unique habitats in the form of gated mines that provide habitat for Townsend's big-eared bat (a sensitive species) and other bat species.

Wildlife Desired Condition

The Forest, with minimal human-caused disturbance and development, provides for wildlife movement (including grizzly bear and wide ranging carnivores) between the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones. Mid and high elevation areas with cliffs and/or rock outcrops and minimal human disturbance provide winter range habitat for mountain goats in the Scotchman Peaks recommended wilderness and on NFS lands on the east face of Lake Pend Oreille. In addition, human disturbance is minimized or avoided in areas of wolverine dens and den sites of grizzly bear sows with cubs as they emerge in the spring (after April 1) in the West Cabinets (Scotchman Peaks area). Legal use areas for snowmobiles are delineated and easily identifiable.

Peregrine falcons have historically nested in this GA but have been absent more recently (last two years). If nesting were to occur, activities are conducted to avoid or minimize disturbance around the nest site. Road and trail densities and restrictions will be adapted to meet the needs and management goals of species affected by human disturbance such as grizzly bear, caribou and big game.

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species

The Lake Pend Oreille basin and the Lower Clark Fork watershed area can be found in this GA. The watersheds that make up the GA have been affected by a long history of development and fire. Lightning Creek (Lower Clark Fork) and Gold Creek (Upper Lake Pend Oreille) contain important and viable populations of bull trout, which makes them some of the highest priority watersheds in the IPNF for restoration. Several waterbody segments are identified on the State of Idaho's impaired waterbodies (303(d)) list.

Bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout are widely distributed throughout this GA. The Lake Pend Oreille system has the strongest bull trout populations (including those in Trestle Creek and Gold Creek watersheds) in the IPNF, although threats exist (introduced species, hydroelectric dams, poaching, past and present land management activities). Several watersheds have been identified as high priority for restoration actions for bull trout. Significant improvements have been made in

these drainages in the last 10 years. Lake Pend Oreille has supported a popular sport fishery for introduced rainbow trout, lake trout, and kokanee.

Watersheds and Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Watersheds trend toward properly functioning condition physically, and for expansion of self-sustaining populations of native aquatic species. In this subbasin, the headwaters of many tributaries tend to be in the best physical condition. Bull trout are at a low risk of extinction in this subbasin, with population strongholds in Trestle and Gold Creek. Habitat supports expansion of the number of stronghold populations for this species and improved populations of non-native sport fish consistent with the State’s population goals. Sediment (the pollutant of concern) is reduced in the Lightning Creek watershed. Water quality in the public water supplies along the east shore of Lake Pend Oreille and at Oldtown is protected.

Management Area Composition

Table 6 displays the acres identified within each management area for the Pend Oreille GA.

Table 6. Pend Oreille GA management area acres

Management Area	Management Area Name	Acres	Percentage of GA Acres
1b	Recommended Wilderness	25,100	8%
1e	Primitive Areas	18,300	6%
2b	Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	3,900	1%
4a	Established or Proposed Research Natural Area	1,300	<1%
5	Backcountry	85,100	27%
6	General Forest	179,700	57%
7	Primary Recreation Area	300	<1%
	Total NFS Lands	313,700	

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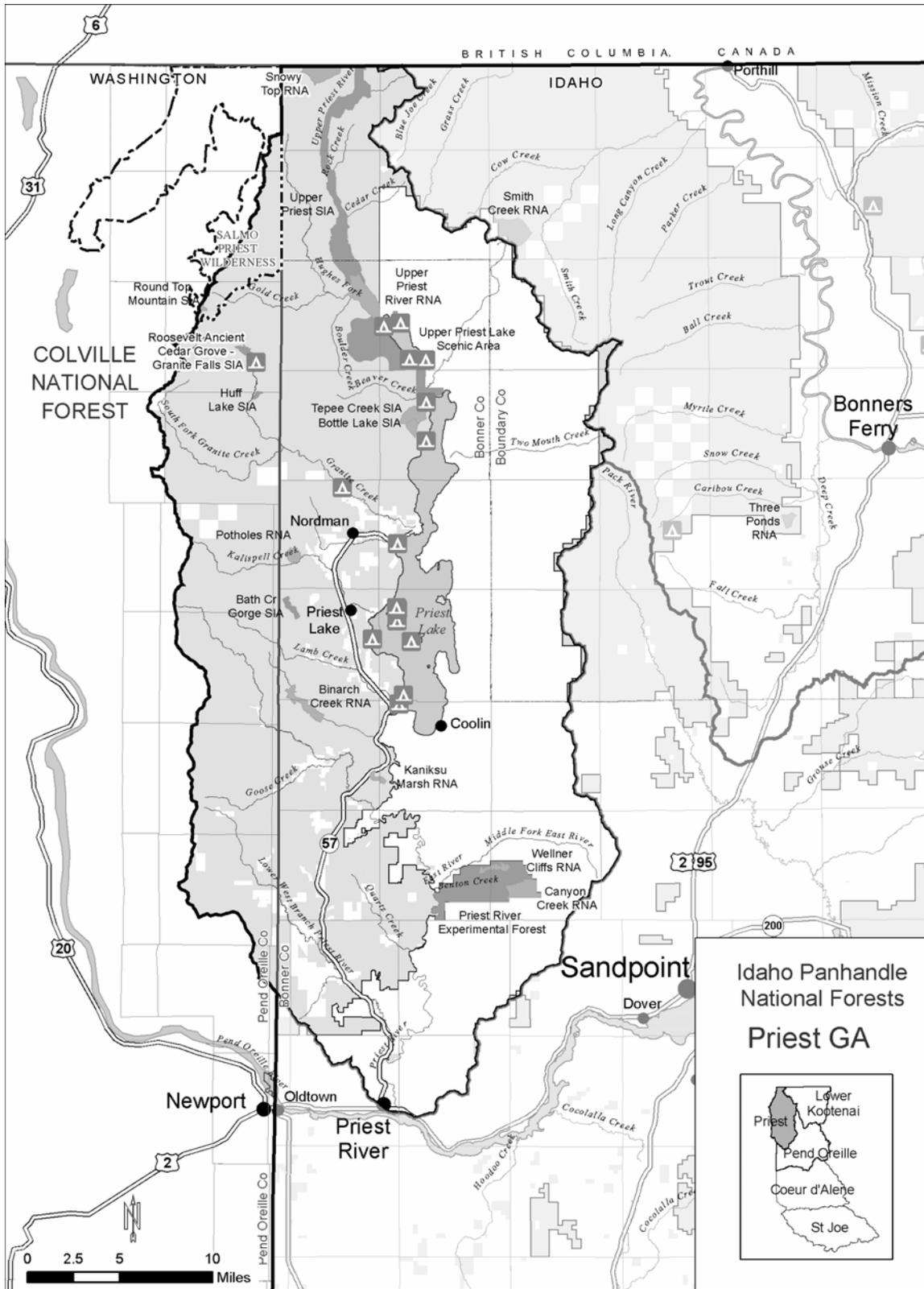


Figure 15. Priest GA

Priest Geographic Area

General Location, Description, and Unique Features

The Priest Geographic Area (GA) lies within Boundary and Bonner counties in Idaho and Pend Oreille County in Washington. British Columbia borders the Priest GA on the north. Of the 619,000 acres in this GA, 325,000 acres (53 percent) are administered by the IPNF. This area is experiencing an increasing amount of second-home development. Communities include Priest River, Priest Lake, Coolin, and Nordman.

Physically, the Priest Geographic Area forms a big bowl with the high elevation Priest/Pend Oreille Divide on the west, and the high elevation Selkirk Mountains on the east, and the two ranges joining near the Canadian border. The mountains are highest and most extensive in the north, and the valleys are narrowest in the north. The southern one-third of the GA has more rolling low and mid-elevation topography, but a relatively narrow opening to the Pend Oreille River. This bowl-shaped topography with high ridges on three sides captures cold air in the low elevations, and traps cool moist air in the summer. As a result, the low elevation winter snow pack is deeper and more persistent than elsewhere in northern Idaho, and summertime conditions are relatively moist and cool compared to neighboring areas. This cool moist environment favors dense forests and rapid development of dense cedar/hemlock understories on warm moist settings. A summer maritime storm track that dips down from Canada also contributes to favorable growing season moisture conditions. This topography and moisture setting is likely part of the reason why upper Priest River contains the largest contiguous area of old growth cedar/hemlock/grand fir in the interior western United States, and the largest concentration of ancient cedar stands in northern Idaho.

Unique features within this GA include:

- Granite Falls
- Roosevelt Cedar Grove
- Upper Priest Lake Scenic Area
- Priest Lakes and their connecting thorofare
- A portion of the Salmo-Priest Wilderness Area, the only Congressionally Designated wilderness area in the IPNF
- Prime snowmobile trails and terrain, and outstanding cross-country skiing opportunities
- Highest concentration of peatlands in the IPNF, such as Armstrong Meadows and Sema Meadows
- National Forest System lands on the west side of Priest Lake offer highly developed marinas and resorts to dispersed camping opportunities.

Geographic Area Desired Condition

The following desired condition discussion is specific to this GA. The desired condition for this GA does not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions found earlier in this chapter that are applicable to all geographic and management areas.

Access and Recreation

Priest Lake is a major attraction within this GA for most recreation visitors. Heavy use occurs in and around the lake during the summer months. The west side of the lake is primarily NFS lands and recreation is the primary use in this area. Upper Priest Lake is very popular for its roadless character and scenic beauty. The GA contains an extensive snowmobile trail system that attracts many Washington State residents. Current road and trail access for this area is portrayed on the 2004 Travel Plan Map for the Kaniksu National Forest.

Access and Recreation Desired Condition

The Priest Lake Ranger District emphasizes recreation management along the west side of Priest Lake and on several islands for a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities. These opportunities range from dispersed camping and day-use sites to highly developed resorts, marinas, and recreation residence tracts. Summer trails provide a range of motorized and nonmotorized opportunities. Cooperation between the local communities of Priest River and Priest Lake, the Idaho Department of Lands, and the Forest Service provide an integrated approach to recreation management throughout the district. The winter motorized trail system provides opportunities for loop trail rides on groomed routes and access to a wide array of off-trail areas while meeting wildlife management objectives. Several special interest areas like Huff Lake, Hanna-Flats Cedar Grove, and Bath Creek Gorge protect special features while facilitating public access.

Vegetation

About half of this GA was glaciated, and most of the rest was affected by glacial outwash or glacial lakes. A high diversity of ecological settings is due to being at the edge of glaciation. These glacial-influenced landforms, plus the cool moist environment are probably at least part of the reason why the Priest subbasin contains the highest concentration of moist coastal disjunct plant species and boreal plant species, and the most extensive rare plant communities in the IPNF. These same environmental conditions are also likely responsible for the highest concentration of peatlands in northern Idaho, with many rare peatland plant communities.

More than 80 percent of the forest stands are dominated by a warm/moist biophysical setting (the highest percent on the IPNF). The remainder of lands is split between warm/dry and cool and cold/moist subalpine biophysical settings. However, on the southern one-third of the GA, much of the warm/moist setting also contains regular inclusions of warm/dry setting that result from coarser textured soils on south and west aspects. Historically this area was mixed conifer, but two-thirds of the moist sites were dominated by white pine and larch. The valley bottoms and lower slope moist aspects contained large areas of mature and old growth cedar/western hemlock mixed with white pine. The drier inclusions were predominantly low to medium density large ponderosa pine. Now, the dominant vegetation is still mixed conifer; but mostly smaller western red cedar, western hemlock, Douglas-fir and grand fir on moist upland settings, and mostly denser smaller Douglas-fir and grand fir on the drier settings. Much (but not all) of the mature valley bottom western red cedar/western hemlock/white pine was harvested long ago. Ninety percent of all the white pine has been lost, mostly to blister rust, although harvest has had some impact. Western larch dominates far fewer stands due to suppression of the mixed severity fire that historically favored it, and also as a result of past harvest. The higher elevation cool/moist subalpine settings were historically dominated by a mixture of subalpine fir and Engelmann spruce, with whitebark pine on the highest ridges. Overall, these cool/moist settings are the least changed forests, with the exception of the whitebark pine. Whitebark pine has suffered severe declines as a result of white pine blister rust, fire suppression, and mountain pine beetle.

Between the early 1900s and the 1980s, there was extensive timber harvest on the lower elevations in the southern half of the subbasin, but the higher elevations and the northern half of the subbasin have been much less impacted. Although the Priest subbasin has lost over one-third of their old growth compared to mean historic amounts, a percentage of the area still occupied by old growth is relatively high for northern Idaho. Large areas of mature forest also remain, especially in the northern one-third of the subbasin. Compared to the rest of the IPNF, the Priest subbasin and the adjacent Lower Kootenai Geographic Area are distinguished by the following characteristics:

- relatively high amounts of remaining old growth and mature forest in large blocks compared to other geographic areas;
- a noteworthy large high integrity landscape identified by the North Zone Geographic Assessment in the northern one-third of Priest subbasin and adjacent Northern Selkirk Mountains of Lower Kootenai;
- extensive rare plant communities with both moist coastal disjunct and boreal species;
- peatland settings and plant communities;
- more larch than other GAs.

Vast portions of this area were burned in wildfires between the late 1800s and early 1930s. The 1910 fire had less impact here than in much of northern Idaho, but the 1926 fire burned approximately one-quarter of the Forest, across the middle of the watershed. Other late-19th century and early 20th century fires also had a significant impact.

Vegetation Desired Condition

Interior old growth cedar/hemlock forests and ancient cedar groves in the northern one-third of the basin continue or trend towards old growth conditions. The Upper Priest and Upper Granite Creek areas are the most diverse in the IPNF from an ecosystem and species standpoint. These areas are within Class A (see Figures 2 and 3 under “[Vegetation Desired Condition](#)” on pages 1-5 and 1-6 in this Chapter) and continue to provide high ecological integrity.

Vegetation trends towards Class A (see Figures 2 through 8 under “[Vegetation Desired Condition](#)” on pages 1-5 through 1-13 in this chapter) where landscapes have been substantially altered. This includes the lower and middle Priest areas (Lower Granite, Beaver Creek, Kalispell/Reeder and Lower Priest River landscapes). Desired conditions are large patch size, reduced fragmentation, early seral species, and increasing the proportion of late-seral and old growth forests, including riparian cedar.

Moist forest conditions adjacent to the communities near Priest Lake and surrounding areas, and the Highway 57 primary evacuation corridor, includes dense forest conditions with high fuel moistures, 15-30 tons of coarse woody debris in large, scattered pieces, a mixture of successional stages, including park-like, shade-limiting old growth forests.

The Salmo/Priest Wilderness and adjacent backcountry areas are weed-free.

Fire Desired Condition

Decrease potential fire intensity and severity in the forested lands near the communities of Lamb Creek and Nordman, outlying communities and infrastructure, and the Highway 57 primary evacuation corridor. Trend the fire-adapted ecosystems beyond the wildland urban interface to be resilient to natural disturbance regimes.

Wildlife

This GA is considered to be one of the most diverse in terms of both ecosystem and species diversity. A large percentage of this GA is within the woodland caribou recovery area for the South Selkirk herd and within the Selkirk grizzly bear recovery area. Management for grizzly bear and woodland caribou provides habitat conditions and security for the numerous other species that occur in the area, such as wolverine, mountain goat, and Canada lynx. All the large carnivores that occur in the Rockies occur in the Priest Lake Basin. The area contains extensive and often unique wetlands and meadows that provide habitat for bog lemming, boreal toad and other species. The area contains unique habitats in the form of gated mines that provide habitat for Townsend's big-eared bat (a sensitive species) and eight other bat species.

Wildlife Desired Condition

The Forest provides habitats, in sufficient quantity and quality, to meet all of the seasonal needs of woodland caribou, including a high percentage of late-succession/old growth vegetation. Ridgetops, with minimal human-caused disturbance and development provide for movement of caribou and other wildlife between large stands of late succession/old growth.

The Selkirk Mountains continue to provide habitat conditions suitable for seasonally dependent use by woodland caribou, grizzly bear, and wolverine denning and rearing activities, as well as secure habitats for elk and other big game. Mid and high elevation areas with cliffs and/or rock outcrops and minimal human disturbance provide winter range habitat for mountain goats in the Selkirk Mountains.

Mines with bat-friendly closures provide habitat for the several species of bats that occur in the Priest area. Activities avoid or minimize disturbance to roosts and hibernacula. The upper Priest area continues to provide habitat conditions favorable for harlequin duck and loon nesting (minimal disturbance during the nesting seasons).

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species

This GA contains a complete river system with two principle lakes, Priest Lake and Upper Priest Lake, which are closely connected by a thorofare. The Priest River Basin drains the Selkirk Mountains of British Columbia, Idaho, and Washington. Its watershed condition within the basin tends to be functioning at risk. The watersheds in the north portion of the GA are mostly in a properly functioning condition, while the watersheds associated with the lower river are often not properly functioning. A few waterbody segments are identified on the State of Idaho's impaired waterbodies (303(d)) list.

Bull trout and other native salmonids have historically occupied most of the waters of the area; however, their numbers and range have been limited for many reasons, including loss or degradation of habitat, and competition from introduced fish species. Bull trout are currently found mainly in the upper portion of the area (Upper Priest Lake and River and tributaries). Westslope cutthroat trout are widely distributed in streams throughout the GA, although the populations are fragmented in several tributaries. Priest Lake and Upper Priest Lake are popular for recreational fishing.

Watersheds and Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Watersheds trend towards properly functioning condition physically and trend the native aquatic species toward self-sustaining populations. In the Priest River subbasin, the best physical watershed conditions and the strongest native aquatic species populations are located in the upper

portion of the subbasin (Upper Priest River and tributaries). Habitat supports expansion of the number of stronghold populations of westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout and improved populations of non-native sport fish consistent with the State's population goals. Pollutants of concern in 303(d)-listed watersheds with a high percentage of NFS lands (e.g., Granite Creek) are reduced.

Management Area Composition

Table 7 displays the acres identified within each management area for the Priest GA.

Table 7. Priest GA management area acres

Management Area	Management Area Name	Acres	Percentage of GA Acres
1a	Congressionally Designated Wilderness	9,900	3%
1b	Recommended Wilderness	20,000	6%
1e	Primitive Areas	3,000	1%
2b	Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	4,800	1%
3	Special Interest Area	5,300	2%
4a	Established or Proposed Research Natural Area	5,400	2%
4b	Experimental Forest	5,000	2%
5	Backcountry	71,100	22%
6	General Forest	195,300	60%
7	Primary Recreation Area	5,400	2%
	Total NFS Lands	325,200	

St. Joe Geographic Area

General Location, Description, and Unique Features

The St. Joe Geographic Area (GA) lies predominantly within Benewah and Shoshone counties in Idaho, with small portions in Kootenai, Latah, and Clearwater Counties. Of the 1,449,000 acres within this GA, 722,000 (50 percent) are administered by the IPNF. This GA comprises most of the St. Joe National Forest. St. Maries is the largest community in these GA. Smaller communities within the GA includes Clarkia, Fernwood, Avery, and Santa.

The St. Joe GA stretches westward from the rugged Idaho/Montana border along the Bitterroot Mountains to the rolling Palouse flatlands along the Idaho/Washington border. The St. Joe mountains are the northern limit of the GA, while the Clearwater Mountain Range are the southern limit. The St. Joe GA has some of the most productive and biologically diverse forest lands in the Columbia River Basin. The St. Joe GA contains plants and animals of the central Rocky Mountains, the boreal forests, and the moist coastal forests. The St. Joe river basin, headwaters of the Little North Fork of the Clearwater river basin, and the St. Maries river basin are the dominant watersheds within this GA.

Unique features within this GA include:

- St Joe Wild and Scenic River
- Emerald Creek Garnet Area
- Mallard Larkins Pioneer Area
- Marble Creek Historic Area
- Route of the Hiawatha Bike Trail
- Hobo Cedar Grove Botanical Area

Geographic Area Desired Condition

The following desired condition discussion is specific to this GA. The desired condition for this GA does not substitute for or repeat Forestwide desired conditions found earlier in this chapter that are applicable to all geographic and management areas.

Access and Recreation

A wide variety of recreational activities occurs in this GA with the major attraction being the St. Joe River. This river is heavily fished and popular for boating. The river corridor receives moderate to heavy recreational use. The Mallard Larkins Pioneer Area is popular with backcountry enthusiasts and receives a fair amount of nonmotorized use. Another major attraction is the Route of the Hiawatha Bike Trail. The St. Joe GA attracts many hunters in the fall during the various hunting seasons. Current road and trail access for this area is portrayed on the 2004 Travel Plan Map for the St. Joe National Forest.

Access and Recreation Desired Condition

The St. Joe Ranger District emphasizes management of the St Joe River corridor for a wide variety of both developed and dispersed day-use and overnight sites. Management of the river corridor is a District priority because of its status as a designated Wild and Scenic River. The Emerald Creek Garnet Area SIA is managed for both public and commercial opportunities. Public

access is maintained while reducing effects to water resources and quality. The Hiawatha Trail is managed in partnership with the private sector to provide a world-class, rail-to-trail biking experience. Partnerships with outfitters and guides provide quality guided hunting and other opportunities throughout the St Joe drainage. Summer trails offer both motorized and nonmotorized opportunities. Motorized trail opportunities are prevalent in the lower St Joe drainage while nonmotorized opportunities are emphasized in the upper St Joe (wild portion of the designated river) and the Mallard Larkins area. Many of the trails within the Slate Creek and Big Creek drainages are managed for motorized use.

Vegetation and Fire

This GA contains some of the most productive forest lands (“fertile crescent”), as well as the best example of continental climatic influences (upper St. Joe landscape) that occur in North Idaho. Half of this GA is in the warm/moist biophysical settings, with most of the remainder in the subalpine setting. This GA has only a very small amount (less than 5 percent) within the warm/dry setting, occurring mostly along the breaklands of the lower/middle St. Joe River. Historically, ponderosa pine was only a minor component within this GA, with Douglas-fir dominant on the dry settings along the St. Joe River corridor. The warm/moist setting was historically dominated by western white pine and western larch. Today, most of the warm/moist forest is dominated by Douglas-fir, grand fir, and western hemlock. Currently, the subalpine forests are composed mostly of subalpine fir/mountain hemlock and lodgepole pine, with much less representation of western white pine and western larch than historically.

Vast areas were burned in wildfires between the late 1800s and 1934. Approximately half of the St. Joe River Basin burned in 1910, and included some of the biggest patches of that famous historic fire. Substantial parts of the 1910 fire reburned once or more in the next three decades. As a result of the 1910 fire and prior fire history, there are very large areas of even-aged lodgepole pine forests in the upper St. Joe. Much of the lodgepole pine is either currently infested with mountain pine beetle, or will soon be at risk to these insects as these forests mature. Because of the reburns, there are still some large areas of shrubfields on the north and south side of the St. Joe River and along the Little North Fork of the Clearwater River. With the advent of modern fire suppression, there have been few large fires in the St. Joe drainage since 1934. Landscapes where old/growth mature sawtimber exist are where these historic fires did not burn, and tend to be the most moist areas in the GA (Quartz/Gold Creeks, and Clearwater Divide landscapes). Due to the combination of early 19th century fires, timber harvesting in the areas where these fires missed, and fire suppression, the GA contains more small, medium, and immature large, and less mature/old growth than existed historically.

Vegetation Desired Condition

Landscapes where specific plant communities have been substantially altered (low elevation, open, large ponderosa pine, western larch and Douglas-fir; low elevation moist disjunct plant communities) are restored. Old growth patch size is increased in the Quartz/Gold and Clearwater divide landscapes. Ninety percent or more of the persistent shrub fields (as a result of reburns) are in a forested condition. The Mallard Larkins and adjacent backcountry areas are weed-free.

Whitebark pine abundance increases in the high-elevation sites and ridgetops (Bitterroot Divide, Mallard Larkins, etc.) and exists as low to moderate density forests similar to historical conditions. Ponderosa pine stands planted after turn-of-the-century wildfires, from non-local, maladapted seed sources, are replaced with vegetation that is appropriate for the habitat type. In

the upper St. Joe River, long-lived seral species trend toward Class A in the subalpine setting where currently mature lodgepole pine dominates.

Fire Desired Condition

Fire risk will be reduced within the defensible space for rural communities in the St. Joe GA. Fire regime condition class will be improved in the lower St. Maries River zone within the wildland urban interface (WUI), as will evacuation corridors along the St. Joe River and Gold Pass. Wildland fire use for resource benefits will be utilized to sustain ecosystems and promote landscape resiliency within the St. Joe GA, where and when appropriate.

Wildlife

This GA contains populations of, or habitat for, several big game species including mountain goat and elk, and threatened and endangered species including gray wolf, and Canada lynx. Species of concern/species of interest listed for the IPNF known to occur in this GA include fisher and wolverine. Coeur d'Alene salamanders appear to be relatively common in this GA.

Mountain goats inhabit the Snow Peak area, which is managed for wildlife in cooperation with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Vital and/or critical winter range has been delineated for those lands north of Highway 50 from Big Creek east to Bluebird Creek and in a small portion of the Snow Peak Wildlife Management Area.

Wildlife Desired Condition

The Forest provides habitat (including security) for big game (especially elk) to help achieve state population objectives. The Snow Peak Wildlife Management area continues to provide a high level of security and habitat effectiveness for wildlife. Mid and high elevation areas with cliffs and/or rock outcrops and minimal human disturbance provide winter range habitats for mountain goats in the Snow Peak area.

Watersheds (Water, Soil, and Riparian) and Aquatic Species

This GA includes the St. Joe River Basin, which is a primary source for Coeur d'Alene Lake, and the Little North Fork of the Clearwater River, which is part of the North Fork Clearwater River. Mountain ranges include the Clearwater Mountains to the south and the St. Joe Mountains to the north. Water quality is generally good and beneficial uses are well supported, especially in the Upper St. Joe and Little North Fork Clearwater River watersheds. Many waterbody segments are identified on the State of Idaho's impaired waterbodies (303(d)) list in all three sections of the St. Joe River.

Streams within this GA support bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, and other fishes. Bull trout spawning habitat is found mainly in the Upper St. Joe River tributaries. Bull trout were historically found in the St. Maries drainage but have not been observed in recent decades. The St. Joe River above Avery is a popular catch-and-release cutthroat trout fishery. The Little North Fork Clearwater River supports bull trout populations and stronghold westslope cutthroat trout populations. Introduced chinook salmon spawn in the St. Joe River from Coeur d'Alene Lake upstream to Big Creek.

Watersheds and Aquatic Species Desired Condition

Watersheds trend toward properly functioning condition physically and trend the native aquatic species toward self-sustaining populations. In the St. Joe subbasin, including the Little North Fork

Clearwater River, the best physical watershed conditions and the strongest native aquatic species populations are located in the upper portion of the subbasin. These conditions will be expanded throughout the subbasin. Habitat supports expansion of the number of stronghold populations of bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout and improved populations of non-native sport fish consistent with the State’s population goals. Pollutants of concern in 303(d)-listed watersheds (e.g., Emerald Creek, West Fork St. Maries River) are reduced.

Management Area Composition

Table 8 displays the acres identified within each management area for the St. Joe GA.

Table 8. St. Joe GA management area acres

Management Area	Management Area Name	Acres	Percentage of GA Acres
1b	Recommended Wilderness	49,600	7%
1c	Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Area	5,200	1%
2a	Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers	21,300	3%
2b	Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	8,300	1%
3	Special Interest Area	25,300	3%
4a	Established or Proposed Research Natural Area	800	<1%
5	Backcountry	294,500	41%
6	General Forest	320,500	44%
	Total NFS Lands	725,500	

Chapter 2. Strategy

Introduction

The strategy describes how the IPNF intends to follow its vision and move toward realizing the desired conditions established in Chapter 1. This strategy consists of three Plan components: objectives, suitability of areas, and special areas. Management areas help further refine suitability of areas and special areas.

- **Objectives** are measurable and time-specific.
- **Suitability of areas** describes general land use suitability for various uses and activities - Forestwide and by management area.
- **Special areas** include areas with unique physical, biological, or social conditions resulting in management direction that represents their special characteristics. These areas are identified by a specific management area.

Objectives

Objectives are projections of Forest activities and program outcomes, which are measurable and time-specific. The life of the Plan is approximately 15 years. Objectives are stepping-stones that maintain or move the Forest toward the desired conditions. Objectives also may anticipate levels of conditions, uses, or activities and are linked to the monitoring and evaluation strategy to determine trends and the need to amend or revise the Plan. A single project and/or activity may contribute to multiple objectives.

Like desired conditions, objectives are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities. Objectives are based on budgets and other assumptions that are realistic expectations for the Plan period. However, the ability to achieve objectives is based on several factors including annual budgets, forest priorities, and in some cases, natural events and weather patterns.

The following objectives are designed to help achieve or move the Forest towards the desired conditions described in Chapter 1:

Access and Recreation Objectives

1. Dispersed Recreation Sites

- Annually, maintain 10 percent of concentrated use areas.
- Over the life of the Plan, 5 percent of the concentrated use areas are improved or closed or the appropriate actions taken to reduce deferred maintenance.

2. Developed Recreation Sites

- Annually, operate and maintain at least 95 percent of the developed recreation sites.
- Over the life of the Plan, appropriate actions are taken to modify 15 to 20 percent of the developed recreation sites that improve facilities, expand capacity, or enhance the resource setting.

3. **Road Maintenance** - Annually, perform maintenance activities on:
 - 20 to 30 percent of Objective Maintenance Level 3, 4, and 5 roads (generally drivable by passenger vehicles).
 - 10 to 20 percent of Objective Maintenance Level 2 roads (generally drivable by high clearance vehicles).
4. **Winter trails** - Annually, provide access for both motorized and nonmotorized winter trail activities on:
 - 250 to 500 miles of motorized trails.
 - 30 to 75 miles of nonmotorized trails.
5. **Summer trails** - Annually, maintain both motorized and nonmotorized summer trail activities on:
 - 100 to 200 miles of motorized trails.
 - 100 to 200 miles of nonmotorized trails.

Vegetation Objectives

1. **Vegetation Restoration** - Over the life of the Plan, increase the representation of early seral, shade-intolerant, drought and fire tolerant, insect/disease resistant species dominance types (e.g., ponderosa pine, white pine, western larch, and whitebark pine) on approximately 85,000 to 90,000 acres.
2. **Old Growth** - Forestwide, increase the amount of NFS lands managed for old growth in each of the following biophysical settings (ranges displayed are annual increases but may be averaged over the life of the Plan):
 - Warm/dry biophysical setting: 450 to 550 acres.
 - Warm/moist biophysical setting: 1,000 to 1,100 acres.
 - Subalpine biophysical setting: 350 to 450 acres.
3. **Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plant Species** - Over the life of the Plan:
 - Upon discovery of new invaders (noxious weeds or invasive plant species), contain 100 percent of these occurrences within the discovered site.
 - Upon discovery, treat 100 percent of noxious weeds and invasive plant species in weed-free grasslands, riparian areas, and wetlands.
 - Treat approximately 15,000 to 30,000 acres to reduce noxious weed and invasive plant density, infestation size, and/or occurrence.
4. **Forest Health** - Over the life of the Plan, treat approximately 250,000 acres to maintain and/or improve forest health and to reduce impacts of non-native insects and diseases. Treatment includes timber harvest, prescribed burning/mechanical fuel treatments, wildland fire use, tree stand improvement, blister rust pruning, noxious weed treatments, and other integrated pest management activities including all forest health protection suppression and prevention activities.

- Over the life of the Plan, approximately 80 - 90 percent of the forest health acres improve fire regime condition class. This includes timber harvest, prescribed burning/mechanical fuel treatments, wildland fire use, tree stand improvement, blister rust pruning, noxious weed control and/or native re-vegetation projects that re-establish natural fire regimes.

Timber Objectives

1. **Wood Fiber** - Annually over the first decade of the Plan, offer timber for sale at the estimated timber sale program quantity (TSPQ) level of 13.2 to 13.7 MMCF (69.9 – 73.2 MMBF), consisting of the following elements:
 - Approximately 11.4 to 11.5 MMCF (60.2 – 61.7 MMBF) from regularly scheduled timber harvests on lands suitable for timber production.
 - Approximately 1.8 to 2.2 MMCF (9.7 – 11.5 MMBF) from lands not suitable for timber production, but where timber harvest may occur for other multiple-use purposes.

As described in FSH 1909.12 63.4, the above harvest volume are estimates and describe the output levels associated with activities designed to meet desired ecological, social, and economic conditions. The estimated volumes may change due to project-level data, unforeseen events, or modified conditions. Such conditions do not require a Plan amendment; however, changes will be noted in the Plan set of documents (e.g., the Comprehensive Evaluation Report).

2. **Restocking of Stands after Regeneration Harvest** - Within five years, all stands on lands suitable for timber production are adequately restocked after final regeneration harvest.

Fire Objectives

1. Fire Management

- Annually, conduct fuels treatment on approximately 4,500 – 6,500 acres on NFS lands.
- Over the life of the Plan, a minimum of 60 percent of all fuel treatment activities occur in the WUI.
- Over the life of the Plan, a minimum of 75 percent of all fuel treatment activities outside of the WUI will be designed to improve condition class 2 and 3 or maintain condition class 1 in fire regimes 1, 2, and 3.

Wildlife Objectives

1. **Habitat** - Annually, conduct wildlife habitat maintenance or restoration improvement projects on 1,000 to 5,000 acres of NFS lands.
2. **Threatened and Endangered Animal Species**
 - **Grizzly Bear** - BMUs within the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones that do not meet standards for core, total motorized route density and open motorized route density are brought into compliance within five years after the Plan has been approved.

- **Bald Eagle** - By 2010, complete nest management plans for all currently active (2005) nest sites on NFS lands. Within three years of new nesting establishment on NFS lands, complete nest management plans.

Watersheds (Soil, Water, and Riparian Areas) and Aquatic Species Objectives

1. **Watersheds Condition** - Trend watersheds shown to be functioning at risk (FAR) or not properly functioning (NPF) toward properly functioning condition (PFC) by:
 - Over the life of the Plan, removing or mitigating risk factors (that are within the reasonable control of National Forest management) for 25 percent of the 6th-code scale watersheds that are characterized as FAR or as NPF (approximately 20 to 30 sub-watersheds).
 - Treating 750 to 1000 acres in FAR and in NPF subwatersheds to fully restore, establish, or maintain aquatic functions and processes in those watersheds.
2. **303(d)-listed Waterbodies** - In each five-year period of the Plan, approximately 15 to 20 percent of the NFS lands within 303(d)-listed waterbodies or watersheds (FY2002 list) are eligible for delisting by:
 - Applying improvement measures and controls associated with most (approximately 90 percent) of the 303(d)-listed watersheds, streams, and waterbodies that have existing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) and implementation plans.
 - Annually, improving, rehabilitating, or restoring 100 to 150 acres in 303(d)-listed watersheds.
3. **Fisheries Habitat** - Annually, enhance or restore 10 to 15 miles of habitat to maintain or restore structure, composition, and function of physical habitat for fisheries.
4. **Habitat Connectivity** - Over the life of the Plan, connect 10 to 15 miles of fragmented habitat where appropriate to provide for aquatic and riparian-associated species' migratory needs and maintenance of metapopulations.
5. **Soil Quality and Productivity** - Annually, restore soil integrity and productivity consistent with Regional Soil Quality criteria (FSM 2554.03 – R1 Supplement 2500-99-1) on approximately 400 acres currently not meeting soil quality criteria (or approximately seven percent of the vegetation management treatment acres).

Other Topics

American Indian Rights and Interests Objectives

1. **Treaty and Nontreaty Uses** - Over the life of the Plan, develop one policy for access and acquisition of forest products for traditional cultural uses by tribal members in consultation with the Tribes.
2. **Consultation** - Over the life of the Plan, develop one communication plan for ongoing consultation with each Tribe.

Grazing Objectives

1. **Grazing** - Annually, provide 2,000 – 3,200 head months (HMs).

Heritage Resource Objectives

1. **Identification, Evaluation, and Nomination** - Identify, evaluate, and nominate historic properties for listing on the National Register of Historic Places:
 - Annually inventory up to 100 acres.
 - Annually identify up to five properties.
 - Annually evaluate up to five properties.
 - Over the life of the Plan, nominate up to five properties.
2. **Protection** - Over the life of the Plan, protect and/or preserve 15 eligible historic properties.
3. **Historic Context** - Over the life of the Plan, develop five historic contexts for historic properties.

Minerals Objectives

1. **Abandoned Mines** - Annually, conduct reclamation activities on one abandoned mine site.

Research Natural Areas (RNAs) Objectives

1. **RNA Establishment** - Over the life of the Plan, establish two RNAs in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Research Station (Red Horse Mountain and Upper Priest River RNAs).

Social and Economic Systems Objectives

See the objectives listed above for output levels associated with management activities in the Forest, which provide uses, values, benefits, products, services, and visitor opportunities.

1. **Jobs/Income** - Based on achievement of projected outputs shown above, annually contribute to local economies by supporting 3,165 – 3,215 local jobs and \$91,900,000 - \$93,200,000 in local income.

Wilderness (Congressionally Designated) Objectives

1. **Wild Character** - Over the life of the Plan, maintain or improve the wilderness character by restoring 2 to 4 existing impacted sites while providing appropriate wilderness recreation opportunities for visitors.

Suitability of Areas

National Forest System lands are generally suitable for a variety of multiple uses, such as outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, and enjoyment of wildlife and fish habitat. Identification of areas generally suitable for various uses and activities is an important part of the Plan strategy involving social, economic, and ecological considerations. Suitability identification is guidance for project and activity decisionmaking.

Management areas are used in this Plan to identify the general suitability of lands for different uses and management activities. Suitability for some uses and activities is also identified for the entire Forest, rather than a particular management area. While both Forestwide and management area descriptions are used to identify areas that are generally suitable for different types of management and use, they do not determine what uses and management activities will actually take place at any given time or location. Those decisions will be made later through site-specific analysis of proposed projects and activities.

Lands are generally suitable for uses and activities unless one of the following conditions applies:

- Use is prohibited by law, regulation, executive order, or agency resource management directives.
- Use results in substantial and permanent impairment of the productivity of the land or renewable resource.
- Use is incompatible with the desired conditions for the relevant portion of the Plan area.

The following sections present suitability across the forest and by management area. Special areas are also reflected in the management areas:

Forestwide Suitability

Topics discussed in this section do not apply to specifically mapped management areas in the Forest; they apply across the forest, anywhere respective suitability criteria are met. In the following section, Forestwide suitability of areas is presented for timber, livestock grazing, riparian conservation areas, motorized recreation, utility corridors, communication sites, and minerals.

Timber

Lands where timber harvest could occur are designated as:

1. **Lands generally suitable for timber production.** These are lands where timber production is compatible with desired condition and objectives. Harvest will occur on a regulated, scheduled basis with rotation ages.
2. **Other lands where timber harvest is an appropriate tool to achieve desired conditions.** These lands are not suitable for timber production. Harvest may occur, but is not scheduled or regulated, with no rotation age. Harvest is compatible with desired condition and may occur for purposes other than timber production.

Table 9 summarizes timber suitability acres. The timber suitability map (Appendix B of this Plan, [Figure B-1](#)) displays areas where timber harvest could occur.

Table 9. Timber suitability acres

Suitability	Acres
Lands Generally Suitable for Timber Production	969,100
Other Lands where Responsible Official determines harvest is appropriate as a tool to achieve desired condition	976,900

The Forest has 1,946,000 acres where timber harvest could be used as a tool to achieve desired conditions. This represents approximately 78 percent of the IPNF. Of those lands, approximately 969,000 acres are generally suitable for timber production. This represents 39 percent of the

IPNF. The biological aspects of timber suitability will be reviewed at a smaller, site-specific scale during project implementation.

Livestock Grazing

The Forest has 20,600 acres that are considered suitable for livestock grazing, representing approximately a very small percentage of the IPNF. Range suitability will be reviewed at a smaller, site-specific scale during project implementation. The range suitability map (Appendix B of this Plan, [Figure B-2](#)) displays areas that are considered suitable for livestock grazing in the Forest.

Riparian Conservation Areas

Riparian conservation areas (see glossary for categories) are generally suitable for activities that improve, restore, or maintain aquatic and riparian ecosystems desired conditions (see “[Riparian Area Guidelines](#)” on page 3-10 in Chapter 3).

Motorized Recreation

Current travel management restrictions will remain in place throughout the Forest until site-specific travel management plans are complete. The Plan will not make individual road and trail decisions. Travel management plans will be based on, and will consider, information in the Plan, specifically: 1) the motorized/nonmotorized designations found in the management areas and 2) the desired conditions for the geographic areas. These two items from the Plan will be the foundation of the travel management plan. Until travel management plans are completed, current travel management direction, found on Forest visitor maps, remains in place.

Motorized recreation is generally suitable on designated routes and in designated areas. Current designated routes and areas are identified on the Forest Visitor’s maps, the Coeur d’Alene River and St. Joe Ranger District Snowmobile Trails maps, the Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry Area Snowmobile Trails map, and the Priest Lake Winter Recreation Trails map.

Utility Corridors

Utility development is generally suitable in designated utility corridors. A listing and map of designated utility corridors can be found in Appendix B of this Plan ([Table B-1](#) and [Figure B-3](#)).

Communication Sites

Communication site development is generally suitable at designated communication sites. A listing and map of designated communication sites can be found in Appendix B of this Plan ([Table B-2](#) and [Figure B-3](#)).

Minerals

Areas not withdrawn from mineral entry are generally suitable for locatable mineral exploration and development. (Locatables are subject to rights of entry as defined by the Mining Law of 1872, 30 U.S.C. 22 et seq. (as amended)). A listing of withdrawn areas can be found in Appendix B of this Plan ([Table B-3](#)).

Management Area Suitability and Special Areas

Management Areas

Management areas (MAs) define the suitability of various places for different uses and management activities. Activities and uses in management areas are reflective of forestwide desired conditions found in Chapter 1 and management area desired conditions found in this chapter. Management area uses or activities may be limited by Forestwide desired conditions and design criteria found in Chapters 1 and 3. Unless otherwise indicated, the more restrictive conditions apply.

The activities and uses in the Suitability Tables, for each management area, are described below:

Wildland fire use: Although suitable in most MAs, this use is further defined by a Wildland Fire Use Plan and the annual Fire Management Plan. These plans define the criteria as to where and when wildland fire use would be permitted. The application of wildland fire use is dependent on site-specific conditions such as weather patterns and location.

Prescribed burning: This refers to managed active burning that is set and monitored to burn at certain intensities over a defined area.

Timber harvest as a tool: Timber harvest, which is the commercial removal of wood fiber for utilization, is a tool for managing towards desired conditions. If a MA is suitable for timber harvest as a tool but not suitable for timber production, timber harvest would only occur to move towards desired condition and/or achieve objectives such as fuels reduction or wildlife habitat improvements.

Timber production: This includes timber harvest that is scheduled and regulated, and harvested on a rotation basis. Timber harvest occurs to move timber and other resources towards desired conditions.

Special forest products and firewood - Commercial and personal use: This refers to special forest products, which include but is not limited to: gathering of huckleberries, collection of bows, and transplanting of trees. Commercial use is through a permit and is the gathering of products for sale for revenue production. Personal use may or may not require a permit and gathering of products is for personal or family use and not for sale.

Grazing: This includes livestock grazing through permitted use.

Motorized (summer): This refers to use of motorized vehicles, such as four-wheel drives and OHVs during summer months (May 1 through November 30 every year). Although the desired condition for this use is defined for each MA, this use will follow current travel management maps and decisions until travel management planning is completed.

Motorized (winter): This refers to use of snowmobiles and other motorized winter vehicles during the winter months (December 1 through April 30 every year). Although the desired condition for this use is defined for each MA, this use will follow current travel management maps and decisions until travel management planning is completed.

Nonmotorized (summer and winter): This refers to use by hiking, running, walking, horseback riding or other means of nonmotorized recreation. This does not include

mountain biking, which is described under “mechanized.” Nonmotorized use is generally suitable in all MAs.

Motorized Tools: This refers to hand-held tools, such as the use of chainsaws for trail clearing. For some MAs, this use is specified for administrative use, meaning personal or commercial use would generally not be suitable.

Mechanized: This refers to any wheeled vehicle, such as mountain bikes, nonmotorized carts, wheelbarrows, and other wheeled, non-motorized vehicle. For some MAs, this use is specified as limited to designated routes.

Road construction (permanent or temporary): This refers to building of roads for a specified use or uses, either permanent or temporary.

Minerals – Leasable and Mineral Materials: This refers to leasable minerals such as oil and gas. This use would be permitted through site-specific analysis. Mineral materials include gravel and decorative rock, which is permitted for commercial or personal use.

Each MA is characterized by a description and desired conditions. General suitability for each management area is depicted in each MA suitability table. In addition, management areas are displayed in the Plan map that accompanies this Plan.

Special Areas

Special areas are areas within the National Forest system designated for their unique or special characteristics. Management guidance for the special areas is found in Forestwide and management area desired conditions and design criteria. For example, MA1a in this chapter includes guidance for congressionally designated wilderness and design criteria identified in Chapter 3 provides direction found in applicable Forest Service Manuals pertaining to the management of congressionally designated wilderness.

These special areas, which are discussed in the rest of this chapter, are identified by a management area and are displayed in the Plan map that accompanies this document. These areas are also listed in the following table and are designated, or proposed to be designated, by statute or administrative action. Table 10 (next page) displays a list of IPNF management areas and acreages.

Table 10. IPNF management areas and acreages

Management Area	Management Area Name	Acres	Percent
1a	Congressionally Designated Wilderness	9,900	0.4%
1b	Recommended Wilderness	129,700	5.2%
1c	Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Areas	5,200	0.2%
1e	Primitive Lands	21,300	0.9%
2a	Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers	21,300	0.9%
2b	Eligible or Suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers	48,200	1.9%
3	Special Interest Areas (Botanical, Geological, Cultural, Scenic and Recreational)	35,500	1.4%
4a	Established and Proposed Research Natural Areas	14,100	0.6%
4b	Experimental Forests	8,200	0.3%
5	Backcountry	679,000	27.2%
6	General Forest	1,515,200	60.6%
7	Primary Recreation Areas	13,100	0.5%
	Total NFS lands	2,500,700	

Because some of the management areas overlap, a hierarchy was developed for the management areas for map display and acre calculations. The management area hierarchy is as follows, listed in order of highest to lowest priority for acre summaries and mapping:

1. 1a Congressionally Designated Wilderness
2. 2a Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers
3. 4a Established and Proposed Research Natural Areas
4. 1b Recommended Wilderness
5. 1c Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Areas
6. 1e Primitive Lands
7. 2b Eligible or Suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers
8. 3 SIAs
9. 4b Experimental Forests
10. 7 Primary Recreation Areas

Because of overlapping management areas, the acre figures reported in Table 10 may not match those listed in the special areas section below, where total acre figures by special area are shown.

MA1a – Congressionally Designated Wilderness

Description

The IPNF shares in the management of one congressionally designated wilderness area – the Salmo-Priest Wilderness. The Salmo-Priest Wilderness totals 41,335, of which 11,949 acres are on the IPNF in the state of Washington. This MA only applies to the portion of the Salmo-Priest Wilderness on the IPNF. If, over the life of this Plan, Congress designates any additional wilderness areas on the IPNF, those areas would be allocated in this MA.

Desired Condition

The Salmo-Priest Wilderness provides opportunities for exploration, solitude, risk, challenge, and primitive recreation. Opportunities for solitude are moderate to high on the existing trail system with few human encounters expected. Opportunities for solitude are high when traveling cross-country with almost no human encounters expected. Campsites may be visible at popular destinations and at major trail junctions. These sites accommodate moderate use. Directional and regulatory signs are primarily found at trailheads outside of this MA but some signs may be present within these areas. Designated wilderness areas are managed according to approved plans, which emphasize maintenance and enhancement of wilderness characteristics and primitive qualities. Buildings are rare within this MA; however, preservation of historical features continues to occur, where compatible with designated wilderness. Ecosystems are influenced by natural processes with little or no human intervention. Ecological processes such as fire, insects, and disease are the primary factors affecting landscapes patterns within this management area. Non-native plants are rare and not likely to occur. Forage for wildlife and livestock is available in meadows and natural openings, although availability may be limited due to topography, growing season, and disturbance. Suitable activities and uses within this MA are displayed in Table 11.

Table 11. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1a (congressionally designated wilderness)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	No
Motorized (Winter)	No
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools	No
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes)	No
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	No
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Salable)	No

MA1b – Recommended Wilderness

Description

This MA applies to the four areas listed in Table 12. These areas are recommended as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System. They are managed to protect their wilderness characteristics until Congressional action is taken. Activities and management actions that do not protect wilderness characteristics are limited or prohibited.

Table 12. Recommended additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System

Recommended Wilderness	Recommended Acres
Mallard Larkins	56,600
Salmo-Priest	19,200
Scotchman Peaks	26,400
Selkirk	36,700

Desired Condition

The wilderness characteristics of each recommended area are maintained until congressional action is taken. Such characteristics include natural appearance, natural integrity, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive recreation, and any identified special features.

Recommended wilderness provides opportunities for exploration, solitude, risk, challenge, and primitive recreation. Opportunities for solitude are moderate to high on the existing trail system with few human encounters expected. Opportunities for solitude are high when traveling cross-country with almost no human encounters expected. Campsites may be visible at popular destinations and at major trail junctions. These sites accommodate moderate use. Directional and regulatory signs are primarily found at trailheads outside of this MA but some signs may be present within these areas. Recommended wilderness areas are managed to maintain and protect wilderness characteristics and primitive qualities. Buildings are rare within this MA; however, preservation of historical features, where compatible with recommended wilderness, continues. Ecosystems are influenced by natural processes with little or no human intervention. Ecological processes such as fire, insects, and disease are the primary factors affecting landscapes patterns within this management area. Non-native plants are rare and not likely to occur. Forage for wildlife and livestock is available in meadows and natural openings, although availability may be limited due to topography, growing season, and disturbance. Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 13.

MA1b – Recommended Wilderness (continued)

Table 13. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1b (recommended wilderness)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	No
Motorized (Winter)	No
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes)	No
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	No
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Salable)	No

MA1c – Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Areas

Description

The IPNF manages one congressionally designated wilderness study area (WSA) – Grandmother Mountain WSA (5,200 acres) located on the St. Joe Ranger District. It was acquired from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as part of the Arkansas-Idaho Land Exchange Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-584). At the time of the exchange, the BLM was managing it as a WSA established under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782). The Arkansas-Idaho Land Exchange Act requires that this area be managed to preserve its suitability for designation as wilderness until Congress determines otherwise. Activities, practices, and management actions that do not protect wilderness characteristics may be limited or prohibited. Existing uses that were in place prior to acquisition by the Forest Service will continue.

Desired Condition

The existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System are maintained for the Grandmother Mountain WSA. Uses established and allowed prior to the legislation requiring the wilderness study until Congressional action is taken continue. Ecosystems are primarily influenced by natural processes with little human intervention. These areas primarily offer opportunities for backcountry recreation. Buildings are rare within this MA; however, preservation of historical features complimentary of the WSA continues. Management actions sustain the natural ecosystem. Suitable activities and uses within this MA are displayed in Table 14.

Table 14. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1c (Congressionally Designated Wilderness Study Areas)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	Yes
Motorized (Winter)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes)	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	No
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	No

MA1e – Primitive Lands

Description

This MA applies to the two areas listed in Table 15. These two areas have wilderness characteristics but are not recommended as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System. These areas are different from recommended wilderness (MA1b) in that they allow winter motorized recreation (snowmobiling) and mountain biking.

Table 15. Areas not recommended as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System

Primitive Lands	Proposed Acres
Salmo-Priest	1,600
Selkirk	19,700

Desired Condition

Backcountry values are maintained in areas proposed for primitive management. These areas are natural appearing and are relatively undisturbed by human management activity. Ecosystems are influenced by natural processes with little human intervention. Ecological processes such as fire, insects, and disease are the primary factors affecting landscape patterns within this MA. Non-native plants are rare and not likely to occur. A variety of nonmotorized summer recreation opportunities occur. Mechanized summer opportunities including mountain bike use occurs. Winter motorized use occurs. Campsites may be visible at popular destinations and at major trail junctions. These sites accommodate moderate use. Forage for wildlife and livestock is available in meadows and natural openings, although availability may be limited due to topography, growing season, and disturbance patterns. Buildings are rare within this MA; however, preservation of historical features complimentary of this MA continues. Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 16.

Table 16. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA1e (Primitive Lands)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	No
Motorized (Winter)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes) on designated routes	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	No
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	No

MA2a – Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers

Description

This MA applies to river segments that Congress or the Secretary of Interior have designated as part of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System (W&SR) under the authority granted by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, as amended. The St. Joe River is the only river with designated segments – one segment of the river has a wild designation and the other segment of the river has a recreational designation. If any eligible or suitable river segments (see MA2b) are designated by Congress over the life of this Plan, those areas would be allocated in this MA.

Designated rivers are classified as:

- **Wild rivers:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.
- **Scenic rivers:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
- **Recreational rivers:** Those rivers or sections of rivers readily accessible by road or railroad that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Table 17. Wild and Scenic Rivers

Currently Designated River	GA Name	District	Status	Classification	Miles	Acres*
St. Joe River	St. Joe	St. Joe	Designated	Wild	29.5	8,288
				Recreational	41.6	13,060

Desired Condition

The two segments of the St. Joe River are managed to protect their unique values. Direction contained in the St. Joe W&SR Development and Management Plan is followed. During the life of this Plan, this management plan is updated and revised.

Designated rivers and adjacent areas are managed to protect and perpetuate the free-flowing characteristics of the river, and outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish, wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. Several structures are located within the “recreational river” portion of this MA and are maintained and utilized. Those structures associated with the St Joe Lodge are located within the “wild” portion of the MA and are used and maintained under a special use permit. Historic properties (both historic and prehistoric sites) will be recognized elements of designated wild, scenic, or recreational river areas. Suitable uses within this MA are displayed in Table 18.

MA2a – Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers (continued)

Table 18. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA2a (Congressionally Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	Yes
Motorized (Summer)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Motorized (Winter)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Minerals Leasable Mineral Materials (Saleable)	All – No All - No

MA2b – Eligible and Suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers

Description

This MA includes portions of nine rivers on the IPNF. Most of these rivers were found eligible or suitable as wild, scenic, or recreational rivers in the 1987 Forest Plan. Two rivers were identified as eligible and added to this Plan, which include portions of the Kootenai River and Hughes Fork of the Priest River. A total of 265 miles have been identified as eligible and/or suitable in this Plan. Table 19 displays these recommended river segments and classifications.

Eligible and suitable rivers are classified as:

- **Wild Rivers:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.
- **Scenic Rivers:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
- **Recreational Rivers:** Those rivers or sections of rivers readily accessible by road or railroad that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Table 19. River classifications

River	GA Name	District	Status	Recommended Classification	Miles	Acres*
Upper Priest River	Priest	Priest Lake	Suitable	Wild	20.1	5,096
Little North Fork Clearwater River						
Seg.1	St. Joe	St. Joe	Eligible	Recreational	11.3	2,434
Seg. 2	St. Joe	St. Joe	Eligible	Wild	26.1	5,869
Seg. 3	St. Joe	St. Joe	Eligible	Recreational	3.4	39
Coeur d'Alene River						
Seg. 1	CdA	CdA River	Eligible	Recreational	7.6	0
Seg. 2	CdA	CdA River	Eligible	Recreational	30.2	398
Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene River	CdA/ PO	CdA River/ Sandpoint	Eligible	Recreational	38.2	11,288
North Fork Coeur d'Alene River						
Seg. 1	CdA	CdA River	Eligible	Recreational	9.2	2,904
Seg.2	CdA	CdA River	Eligible	Wild	15.6	4,454
Seg. 3	CdA	CdA River	Eligible	Recreational	52.2	11,287
Pack River	PO	Sandpoint	Eligible	Recreational	15.3	4,263
Long Canyon Creek	LK	Bonnerr's Ferry	Eligible	Wild	15.2	4,488
Hughes Fork						
Seg. 1	Priest	Priest Lake	Eligible	Wild	7.5	2,323
Seg. 2	Priest	Priest Lake	Eligible	Recreational	7.1	1,674
Kootenai River	LK	Bonnerr's Ferry	Eligible	Recreational	6.6	1,392

* NFS lands

(CdA=Coeur d'Alene, PO=Pend Oreille, LK=Lower Kootenai)

MA2b – Eligible and Suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers (continued)

Desired Condition

Eligible or suitable W&SRs and their adjacent areas are managed to retain their free-flowing status, classification, and outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish, wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. Buildings within this MA are retained if they compliment the recommended classification of the individual river segment. Historic properties (both historic and prehistoric sites) are recognized elements of eligible or suitable wild, scenic, or recreational river areas. Natural disturbance processes are evident in these areas. Suitable uses within this MA are displayed in Table 20.

Table 20. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA2b (eligible and suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	Yes
Motorized (Summer)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Motorized (Winter)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., mountain bikes)	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Wild – No Scenic – Yes Rec - Yes
Minerals Leasable Mineral Materials (Saleable)	All – No All - No

MA3 – Special Interest Areas (Botanical, Geological, Pioneer, Recreational, & Scenic)

Description

This MA applies to the areas listed in Table 21. These are special places across the Forest that have unique, unusual, or important flora, fauna, geological, scenic, or recreational attributes. These special interest areas (SIAs) are managed to protect and enhance the values for which they were identified. Each SIA is part of a category, which will be managed similarly. On the IPNF, the types of SIAs include botanical, geological, recreational, scenic, and pioneer areas.

Table 21. Management area direction for special interest areas (SIAs)

SIA Name	GA Name	District	Established Acres	Proposed Acres	SIA Type
Copper Falls	Lower Kootenai	Bonnors Ferry	40		Geological
Hanna Flats Botanical Area	Priest	Priest Lk	16		Botanical
Hobo Cedar Grove Botanical Area	St. Joe	St. Joe	232	453	Botanical
Mallard Larkins Pioneer Area	St. Joe	St. Joe	13,948	9,004	Pioneer
Northwest Peaks Scenic Area	Lower Kootenai	Bonnors Ferry	1,972	2,639	Scenic
Roosevelt Grove of Ancient Cedars Scenic Area	Priest	Priest Lk	139	115	Scenic/ Botanical
Sandhouse Cedar Grove	St. Joe	St. Joe	120		Botanical
Settlers Grove of Ancient Cedars Botanical Area	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene River	182		Botanical
Upper Priest Lake Scenic Area	Priest	Priest Lk	4,809		Scenic
Bath Creek Gorge	Priest	Priest Lk		254	Geological
Emerald Creek	St. Joe	St. Joe		2,350	Recreational
Huff Lake	Priest	Priest Lk		70	Botanical
Upper Priest River Botanical Area	Priest	Priest Lk		5,096	Botanical
Total SIA Acres			21,458	19,981	

Desired Condition

Special interest areas (SIAs) protect or enhance, and where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with special values. These values include botanical, geological, recreational, scenic, and pioneer areas, with valuable and unique resources. These areas are usually small (less than 1,000 acres) except for scenic and pioneer special interest areas that are usually several thousand acres in size. Where appropriate, interpretation of resources for public education or recreation is provided. Vegetation, terrestrial and aquatic habitat, soil productivity, and water quality appears natural in most areas. Buildings are present within this MA (some SIAs) and are usually designed and maintained for the national forest visitor. Management activities vary within these areas depending upon the specific type of SIA. Suitable uses and activities for botanical SIAs are displayed in Table 22. Suitable uses and activities for geologic, recreational, scenic, and pioneer SIAs are displayed in Table 23.

MA3 – Special Interest Areas (continued)

Table 22. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA3 (SIAs -Botanical)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Special Forest Products and Firewood (commercial or personal use)	No
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	No
Motorized (Winter)	No
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes) on designated routes	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	No
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	No

NOTE: Where a management plan has been developed for an SIA, suitability may differ from that listed in the table. The suitability in the specific SIA management plan would be followed.

Table 23. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA3 (SIAs - Geologic, Recreational, Scenic, and Pioneer Areas)

Management Activities	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Commercial Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	No
Personal Use of Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing on all areas except Emerald Creek SIA	No
Grazing on Emerald Creek SIA	Yes
Motorized (Summer) – all areas except Emerald Creek SIA	Yes – R No – G, S, P
Motorized (Summer) – Emerald Creek SIA	Yes
Motorized (Winter) – all areas except Emerald Creek SIA	Yes – R No – G, S, P
Motorized (Winter) – Emerald Creek SIA	Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes) on designated trails	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Yes – G, R No – S, P
Minerals on all areas except Emerald Creek SIA	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Salable)	No
Minerals on Emerald Creek SIA	
Leasable	Yes
Mineral Materials (Salable)	Yes

G = Geologic SIAs; R = Recreational SIAs; S = Scenic SIAs; P = Pioneer SIAs.

MA4a – Established and Proposed Research Natural Areas

Description

This MA applies to established and proposed research natural area (RNAs). The IPNF has 20 established RNAs, two proposed RNAs, and one proposed addition to an existing RNA. Established RNAs currently exist in the Forest; whereas, RNAs identified as proposed are being brought forward as part of this Plan. RNAs form a long-term network of ecological reserves designated for non-manipulative research, education, and the maintenance of biodiversity. Most of these areas protect late successional or climax vegetative conditions. They are established or proposed to be established to provide study and protection of a full range of habitat types. Table 24 displays the list of established and proposed RNAs in the IPNF.

Table 24. Research natural areas (RNAs)

RNA Name	GA Name	District	Established Acres	Proposed Acres
Binarch Creek	Priest	Priest Lake	653	
Bottle Creek	Priest	Priest Lake	258	
Canyon Creek	Priest	Priest Lake	895	
Five Lakes Butte	St. Joe	St. Joe	325	
Hunt Girl Creek	Lower Kootenai	Bonnors Ferry	1,426	
Kaniksu Marsh	Priest	Priest Lake	172	
Montford Creek	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene R	299	
Pond Peak	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene R	269	
Potholes	Priest	Priest Lake	305	
Red Horse Mountain	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene R		1,274
Round Top Mountain	Priest	Priest Lake	96	
Scotchman #2	Pend Oreille	Sandpoint	1,312	
Smith Creek	Lower Kootenai	Bonnors Ferry	1,248	
Snowy Top	Priest	Priest Lake	845	
Spion Kop	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene R	480	
Tepee Creek	Priest	Priest Lake	613	
Therault Lake	St. Joe	St. Joe	111	45
Three Ponds	Lower Kootenai	Bonnors Ferry	243	
Upper Fishhook	St. Joe	St. Joe	319	
Upper Priest River	Priest	Priest Lake		1,351
Upper Shoshone Creek	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene R	1,306	
Wellner Cliffs	Priest	Priest Lake	305	
Total RNA Acres			11,480	2,670

MA4a – Established and Proposed Research Natural Areas (continued)

Desired Condition

These areas maintain natural, relatively pristine conditions by allowing ecological processes to prevail with minimal human intervention. Most management activities are discouraged. Under special circumstances, deliberate manipulation may be used to maintain or reestablish ecological processes within a RNA if approved in the RNA management plan or Establishment Record. Non-manipulative research activities and projects are conducted with nonmotorized equipment. Existing trails have minimal, nonmotorized use. Most recreational uses are discouraged. Buildings are not present within these areas. Alternatives for existing recreational uses are examined and implemented. Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 25.

Table 25. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA4a (established/proposed RNAs)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	No
Prescribed Burning	No
Timber Harvest as a Tool	No
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Special Forest Products and Firewood (commercial or personal use)	No
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	No
Motorized (Winter)	No
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools for Administrative or Research Work	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., mountain bikes) on designated trails	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	No
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	No

MA4b – Experimental Forests

Description

This MA is comprised of two existing experimental forests on the IPNF: Priest River Experimental Forest and Deception Creek Experimental Forest. Table 26 displays the acreage for these two experimental forests. These areas are dedicated for a wide variety of manipulative and nonmanipulative research. They are managed in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Research Station. Priest River Experimental Forest was established for the purposes of researching tree species common in the inland northwest, including western white pine. Deception Creek Experimental Forest was established in an area that was primarily large, mature western white pine at the time the experimental forest was established in the 1930s.

Table 26. Experimental forests

Experimental Forest	GA Name	District	Acres
Priest River Experimental Forest	Priest	Priest Lake	6,200
Deception Creek Experimental Forest	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene R	3,500

Desired Condition

These areas are managed for research purposes. A variety of forest management practices have created a wide range of forest conditions in the experimental forests, from early to late seral forests. To meet the purposes of this MA, very active management is evident, including both mechanical and nonmechanical vegetation and soil manipulation techniques. Some areas within the experimental forests appear relatively undisturbed. Watershed experiments may include small impoundments and techniques to measure flow and other hydrologic and aquatic variables. Experiments may alter the physical and chemical soil properties for long-term soil productivity research. Genetic tests continue and support the tree improvement program. A variety of scientific equipment is used within these areas to monitor and collect data necessary for specific research projects. Although road density is relatively high, access and many uses are limited in parts of these areas for experimental purposes. Buildings and structures are located within these areas. While a variety of uses is allowed within these areas, some uses are not encouraged. These areas provide cooperative research opportunities with other research entities including educational institutions and other governmental research agencies. Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 27.

Table 27. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA4b (Experimental Forests)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	No
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a tool	Yes
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	Yes
Motorized (Winter)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., mountain bikes)	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Yes
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	Yes

MA5 – Backcountry

Description

Most of this MA consists of relatively large areas without roads. This MA provides a variety of recreation opportunities, both motorized and nonmotorized. Motorized opportunities are generally on trails, as these areas are primarily without roads. The density of motorized routes in MA5 is much lower than the density of motorized routes in MA6 (General Forest). Constructed improvements in this MA generally consist of trails constructed and maintained for recreation users with associated signs and directional markers. In some areas, lookouts, cabins, or other structures are present. Current travel management opportunities will continue within this MA until site-specific travel management planning is completed.

MA5 contains diverse vegetation composition and structure that provides habitat security and connective corridors for certain species. Some evidence of past management activities are present. Watershed and vegetation restoration is accomplished through natural, ecological processes and limited active management activities.

Desired Condition

The range of recreation opportunities that emphasize a variety of nonmotorized and motorized trail opportunities is maintained during the summer and winter periods. The density of motorized routes remains significantly less than in MA6. Existing recreation facilities (including buildings) are maintained. New construction of facilities is rare, with the possible exception of trails.

Ecological conditions are restored or improved. Natural processes create most of the ecological change with allowances for active management restoration activities. Watershed and vegetative restoration are achieved predominantly through natural ecological processes and to a much lesser degree through active management. Active management in this MA is expected to be an exception, triggered by disturbance processes, certain conditions or specific situations.

The reasons for entry into MA5 are referred to as “triggers” that would initiate further study and a decisionmaking process before any activity would begin. It is expected that the majority of active management will occur in MA6, and not in this MA, for the following reasons:

- Unless one of the triggers is met, natural processes are the predominant cause of ecological change in these areas.
- These areas are undeveloped, and do not have many, if any, Forest System Roads. It may be more costly to perform certain types of management activities in these areas than in landscapes that have been actively managed, such as in MA6.
- The desired condition for MA6 will result in focusing more active management activities on those lands than in MA5.

The triggers for road construction and vegetation restoration activities in MA5 include:

Road Construction

There is limited road construction that would occur under certain circumstances. Site-specific project analysis determines if road construction is appropriate, and if so, the type of road needed and the long-term management of the road. It is expected most roads will be temporary roads and will be closed upon project completion. Circumstances that may require road construction include:

Public health and safety - A road is needed to protect public health and safety in cases of an imminent threat of flood, fire, or other catastrophic event, that without intervention would cause the loss of life or property. Examples may include:

- o Fuels reductions projects in the urban interface.
- o Forest management activities in special watersheds (public water supplies).

Resource Protection - A road is needed for critical resource restoration and protection activities. Examples may include:

- o Wildlife habitat restoration, especially for threatened or endangered species or species of interest or concern.
- o Road realignment needed to prevent resource damage by an existing road that is deemed essential for public or private access, management, or public health or safety, and where such damage cannot be corrected by maintenance.

Emergencies and Other Rights - Examples may include:

- o A road is needed to conduct a response action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) or to conduct a natural restoration action under CERCLA, section 311 of the Clean Water Act, or Oil Pollution Act.
- o A road is needed in conjunction with any mineral lease, license, permit, or approval issued for mineral leasing operations.
- o Road access is needed pursuant to reserved or valid existing rights or as provided by statute or treaty, including ANILCA.

Vegetation Restoration

Vegetation restoration activities are allowed under certain circumstances. Site-specific project analysis determines if vegetation treatment using timber harvest is the appropriate management tool to be used, and if so, considers the following circumstances as appropriate for this activity:

Vegetation manipulation is needed for one of the following purposes:

- o To improve habitat for listed or proposed threatened and endangered species, species of concern, or species of interest.
- o To maintain or restore the desirable characteristics or ecosystem composition and structure. Examples include:
 - o To reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects.
 - o To address insect and disease or other forest health concerns.

Vegetation treatment is needed for appropriate administrative uses. Administrative uses (defined in 36 CFR 223) include activities such as:

- o Construction, maintenance or repair of roads, bridges, trails, telephone lines, fences, recreation areas or other improvements of value for the protection or the administration of Federal lands.
- o Fuel in federal camps, buildings and recreation areas.
- o Research and demonstration projects.
- o Use in disaster relief work conducted by public agencies.

- o Disposal when removal is desirable to protect or enhance multiple-use values in a particular area.

Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 28.

Table 28. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA5 (Backcountry)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	Yes - See Desired Condition
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	Yes
Motorized (Summer)	*
Motorized (Winter)	*
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Yes - See Desired Condition
Minerals	
Leasable	Yes
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	No

* = Current travel management opportunities will continue within this MA until site-specific travel management planning is completed.

MA6 – General Forest

Description

Most of this MA consists of relatively large areas with roads, trails, structures, and signs of forest management activities. This MA provides a variety of recreation opportunities, both motorized and nonmotorized. Motorized opportunities exist on some roads and trails. The density of motorized routes in MA6 is much higher than the density of motorized routes in MA5 (Backcountry). Nonmotorized opportunities exist on some trails, rivers, developed facilities, and other sites. Constructed improvements in this MA generally consist of campgrounds, picnic or day use areas, trails, lookouts, cabins, or other structures. Current travel management opportunities will continue within this MA until site-specific travel management planning is completed.

MA6 contains diverse vegetation composition and structure. MA6 provides a variety of wildlife habitats, habitat security, and contributes to connective corridors for certain species. Watershed and vegetation restoration is accomplished predominantly through active management that emulates natural processes but also through natural ecological processes. Management activities and use levels vary, depending on location, accessibility, terrain, economics, and resource conditions. Evidence of past management activities varies across the landscape from infrequent to very common.

Desired Condition

The range of recreation opportunities that emphasize a variety of nonmotorized and motorized road and trail opportunities is maintained during the summer and winter periods while maintaining and improving site or route conditions as opportunities allow. The density of motorized routes will remain significantly more than in MA5 (Backcountry). Existing recreation facilities are common and maintained or improved.

Ongoing vegetation management activities continue, such as timber harvests that require multiple entries, timber stand improvement activities, seed orchards, and other multiple year, ongoing activities.

The ecological conditions are maintained or restored. Active management creates most of the ecological change. Watershed and vegetative restoration are achieved predominantly through restoration activities and also through natural ecological processes. Restoration activities in MA6 may have the intent of improving watershed and aquatic resource conditions, vegetation conditions, fuels reduction, wildlife habitat improvement, or for other resource benefits. This MA is the only one of the MAs that has regulated timber harvest (i.e., timber production) estimates, and therefore timber sales for the primary purpose of timber production may occur in this MA. It is expected that the majority of active management will occur in this MA, not in MA5 or the other MAs for the following reasons:

- The desired condition for this MA includes using active management as a primary tool to affect ecological change.
- This MA covers a significant portion of the Forest. When the land area covered by the MA and its desired condition are considered together, it is to be expected that a majority of management activities will happen on these NFS lands.

- This MA contains the vast majority of Forest System Roads. Therefore it may be more cost effective to perform certain types of management activities in these areas than in other, less roaded areas.

Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 29.

Table 29. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA6 (general forest)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	Yes
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	Yes
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	Yes
Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	Yes
Motorized (Summer)	Yes
Motorized (Winter)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes)	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Yes
Minerals	
Leasable	Yes
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	Yes

MA7 – Primary Recreation Areas

Description

This MA applies to six proposed areas on the IPNF. This MA contains a variety of recreation sites and areas that provide an array of recreational opportunities and experiences in a forested environment. These areas may include heavy investment in recreational infrastructure designed, built, and managed for the national forest visitor. Table 30 displays the MA7 management areas in the IPNF.

Table 30. Primary recreation areas in the IPNF

Primary Recreation Areas	District	Acres
4 th of July	Coeur d'Alene River	3,862
Canfield Mountain	Coeur d'Alene River	1,835
English Point	Coeur d'Alene River	358
Lookout	Coeur d'Alene River	1,303
Priest Lake	Priest Lake	6,551
Sam Owen	Sandpoint	316

Desired Condition

Major site modifications and facility installations are present. These installations and improvements appear singly or in a combination within recreational complexes. They may include both private and public facilities located on NFS lands. Trails are usually well developed and maintained to a high standard.

These areas may be characterized by substantially modified natural environments. Recreation use in these areas is high. The sounds of people using the area are evident and interaction between visitors is sometimes high. A considerable number of facilities designed for use by a large number of people may be present. Facilities are often provided for special activities and are designed to be fully accessible. These facilities are architecturally designed to blend with the forest surroundings while providing the necessary services for forest visitors.

The scenic condition may be altered and easily noticeable to visitors. Vegetation alterations are made in harmony with the natural-appearing landscape. Vegetation manipulation is done to provide for safety and accommodate both existing and new facilities. Vegetation manipulation within ski areas maintains and creates ski runs. Roads, trails, and sometimes highways are often evident. The frequency of human contact is moderate to high. Signs and traffic control devices on roads and trails are obvious and numerous, although they are designed to blend in with the human-made environment. Regulatory and informational signs are common. Picnic tables, fire grates, toilet buildings, and camping sites are visible. Interpretive information is provided where needed. Ecosystems are managed and natural processes may or may not be allowed to operate freely. Suitable uses and activities within this MA are displayed in Table 31 (next page).

MA7 – Primary Recreation Areas (continued)

Table 31. Generally suitable activities and uses for MA7 (primary recreation areas)

Management Activities & Uses	Suitable
Wildland Fire Use	No
Prescribed Burning	Yes
Timber Harvest as a Tool	Yes
Timber Production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	No
Special Forest Products and Firewood	Yes
Grazing	No
Motorized (Summer)	Yes
Motorized (Winter)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Summer)	Yes
Nonmotorized (Winter)	Yes
Motorized Tools	Yes
Mechanized (e.g., Mountain Bikes)	Yes
Road Construction (permanent or temporary)	Yes
Minerals	
Leasable	No
Mineral Materials (Saleable)	No

Chapter 3. Design Criteria

Introduction

Design criteria are used in combination with desired conditions, objectives, and suitable uses to guide the management of the IPNF. Design criteria include guidelines and other sources of design criteria.

Guidelines

Guidelines provide technical specifications and guidance for project and activity decisionmaking to help achieve desired conditions and objectives. Guidelines are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities.

Laws, regulations, policies and other Forest Service specific policy and directives are not repeated in these guidelines. For example, threatened and endangered species have very specific direction in law, regulation, policy, Forest Service directives, and other sources such as recovery plans; therefore, limited guidelines are found in this Plan for threatened and endangered species. If a particular resource is not addressed in these guidelines, it does not mean the resource is not managed or that the Forest Service considers a particular resource less important than those listed.

The following guidelines are applicable across the entire Forest and are organized by sustainability topic.

Other Sources of Design Criteria

This section identifies guidance from other sources that help achieve desired conditions and ensures consistency with law, regulation and policy that governs resource management of NFS lands. This direction is not included in the Plan but is listed below and is incorporated by reference or can be found in the planning record.

This direction includes but is not limited to: laws, regulations, or policies; Memorandum of Understandings; conservation strategies, assessments or plans; Forest Service directives (manuals and handbooks); or existing decisions and their biological opinions.

These sources of design criteria are listed with the guidelines by sustainability topic.

Access and Recreation

Access and Travel Management

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 212-Travel Management; 36 CFR 251-Land Uses; 36 CFR 261-Prohibitions; FSM 7700-Travel Management; FSH 7709.55-Travel Analysis Handbook; Access and Travel Management-Northern Region Guide; and R-1 Supplement #7709.59-2004-1.

Recreation

Guidelines:

1. When existing recreation residences are replaced or reconstructed, the following guidelines should be followed:
 - The maximum size limit is 1,200 square feet on the main floor as measured by the exterior dimensions. This includes enclosed/screened in porches, but excludes decks.
 - The maximum height of any recreation residence should not exceed 24 feet.
 - A minimum of a 6/12 roof pitch should be required.
 - Basements should not be permitted.
 - Shed Roofs should not be permitted.
 - Any new garage or storage building should not exceed 20 feet by 24 feet, exterior dimensions with a 9-foot wall (floor to point of contact with roof).
2. In Management Area 1a (congressionally designated wilderness), party size should not exceed 12 people and stock combined (12 total heartbeats).
3. In Management Areas 1b (recommended wilderness), and 1e (primitive lands) only hand-held motorized equipment should be used for trail maintenance, reconstruction, and construction.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 212-Travel Management; 36 CFR 219-Planning; 36 CFR 251-Land Uses; 36 CFR 261-Prohibitions; 36 CFR 290-Cave Resources Management; 36 CFR 291-Occupancy and Use of Developed Sites and Areas of Concentrated Public Use; 36 CFR 293-Wilderness-Primitive Areas; 36 CFR 294-Special Areas; 36 CFR 297-Wild and Scenic Rivers; FSM 1950-Environmental Policy and Procedures; FSM 2300-Recreation, Wilderness, and Related Resource Management; FSM 2710-Special-Use Authorizations; FSM 2720-Special Uses Administration; FSM 7300-Buildings and Other Structures; FSM 7400-Public Health and Pollution Control Facilities; FSH 1909.15-Environmental Policy and Procedures Handbook FSH 2309.18-Trails Management Handbook; FSH 2709.11-Special Uses Handbook; FSH 7309.11-Buildings and Related Facilities Handbook; and FSH 7409.11-Sanitary Engineering and Public Health Handbook.

Roads

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 212-Travel Management; 36 CFR 251-Land Uses; 36 CFR 261-Prohibitions; FSM 5460-Right-of-Way Acquisition; FSM 7100-Engineering Operations; FSM 7700-Travel Management; FSH 2709.12-Road Rights-of-Way Grants Handbook; FSH 5409.17-Rights-of-Way Acquisition Handbook; FSH 7709.55-Travel Analysis Handbook; FSH 7709.56-Road Pre-construction Handbook; FSH 7709.56b-Transportation Structures Handbook; FSH 7709.57-Road Construction Handbook; FSH 7709.58-Transportation System Maintenance Handbook; FSH 7709.59-Transportation System Operations Handbook; R1 Supplement 46; R1 Supplement 59; R1 Supplement 73; R1 Supplement 7100-91-1; and Miscellaneous Report FS-643 Roads Analysis: Informing Decisions about Managing the National Forest Transportation System.

Scenery

Guideline:

1. Management activities should be designed and implemented to be consistent with the established Scenic Integrity Objectives.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2380 – Landscape Management; Agriculture Handbook Number 701 – Landscapes Aesthetics; A Handbook for Scenery Management.

Roadless Areas

Other Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 294-Special Areas (Subpart B) and FSM 1925-Management of Inventoried Roadless Areas (Interim Directive 1920-2006-1).

Vegetation

Guideline:

1. To maintain rare elements in the ecosystem, live trees over 54 inches in diameter should be retained unless human health and safety would be compromised.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2000-National Forest Resource Management; FSM 2080-Noxious Weed Management; FSM 2470-Silvicultural Practices; FSM 2600-Wildlife, Fish, and Sensitive Plant Management; FSM 2620-Habitat Planning and Evaluation; FSM 2621-Management Indicators; FSM 2622-Biological Diversity; FSM 3400-Forest Pest Management; USDA Regulations 9500-4 and 5; USDA, Idaho Department of Lands, and Montana DNRC-Forest Insect and Disease Identification and Management; Executive Order (EO) 11990-Protection of Wetlands; Healthy Forest Restoration Act, 2003; and EO 13112 Invasive Species.

Threatened, Endangered, and Proposed Plant Species

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 219-Planning; FSM 2670-Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Plants and Animals; Sikes Act as amended (74 Stat. 1052; 88 Stat. 1369) 16 U.S.C. 670g); Conservation Strategy for *Howellia aquatilis*, 1994; and recovery plans for management direction of listed and candidate threatened plant species.

Plant Species of Concern and Species of Interest

Guideline:

1. Activities should protect documented populations of species of concern and species of interest.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2600-Wildlife, Fish, and Sensitive Plant Habitat Management; FSH 2609.13-Wildlife and Fisheries Program Management Handbook; Element Stewardship Abstract for *Betula Pumila*, 1985; Species Conservation Strategy and Monitoring Plan for *Blechnum spican*; Peatlands on National Forests of the Northern Rocky Mountains: Ecology and Conservation, 1996; IPNF Peatlands: Description and Effects of Forest Management, 2003; A classification of aquatic plant communities within the northern rocky mountains, 2002; A plant community classification for IPNF Peatlands, 2004; and Conservation Strategy for Clustered Lady's-Slipper Orchid (*Cypripedium Fasciculatum*) in USFS Region 1.

Old Growth

Guidelines:

1. Management activities should not reduce the amount (acres) of existing old growth.
2. Eliminate or minimize road-related impacts (considering the loss of snags and down wood) within or adjacent to lands being managed for old growth.
3. New or temporary road construction or other developments should be avoided in existing old growth.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Green and others 1992, corrected 02/2005.

Ancient Cedar Grove

Guidelines:

1. Timber harvest should not occur in ancient cedar groves.
2. Prescribed fire in ancient cedar groves should not result in mortality of large trees (greater than 15 inch DBH).

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Ecology of Western Redcedar Groves, February 1986.

Down Wood

Guideline:

1. Vegetation management activities should retain at least the minimum amounts of coarse woody debris displayed in [Table 1](#) of the Vegetation Desired Condition “Down Wood Forestwide Desired Condition” section on page 1-9 in Chapter 1.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2550-Soil Management and FSM 5150-Fuel Management.

Insects and Disease

Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 3400-Forest Pest Management; and USDA, Idaho Department of Lands, and Montana DNRC-Forest Insect and Disease Identification and Management Handbook.

Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plant Species

Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2080-Noxious Weed Management; FSM 2150 - Pesticide Use; FSH 2709.11-Special Use Permits; FSH 2200 Range Management; Individual IPNF District EIS; Federal Noxious Weed Act, 1975; State Weed Management Plans for Montana and Idaho; Policy of Noxious Weed Management 1990; and R-1 Noxious Weed BMPs; National Strategy and Implementation Plan for Invasive Species Management.

Timber

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 221-Timber Management Planning; 36 CFR 223-Sale and Disposal of National Forest System Timber; FSM 1920-Land Management Planning; FSM-2400 Timber Management; FSH-2400 Timber Management; FSH-1900 Planning; and Timber Sale Contract Provisions and procurement contracts.

Fire

Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 5100-Fire Management; FSM 5110-Wildfire Prevention, FSM 5120-Presuppression Management, FSM 5130-Fire Suppression; FSM 5140-Prescribed Fire; FSM 5150-Fuel Management; FSM 5160-Fire Management Equipment and Supplies; FSM 5170-Fire Management Cooperation; FSM 5180-Fire Reports; FSM 5190-Management; FSH 5109.14-Individual Fire Report Handbook; FSH 5109.17-Wildland Fire Qualifications Handbook; FSH 5109.18-Wildfire Prevention Handbook; FSH 5109.19-Fire Management Analysis and Planning Handbook; FSH 5109.31-Wildfire Cause Determination Handbook (NWCG Handbook 1); FSH 5109.32a-Fireline Handbook (NWCG Handbook 3); FSH 5109.34-Interagency Fire Business Management Handbook (NWCG Handbook2); 1998 Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy Implementation Procedures Reference Guide; 2001 Review and Update of the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy; 2001 A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy; 2002 A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan; 2005 Wildland Fire Use Implementation Procedures Reference Guide; 2005 Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book) updated annually; 2005 Benewah County Community Wildfire Protection Plan; 2005 Bonner County Community Wildfire Protection Plan; 2005 Boundary County Community Wildfire Protection Plan; 2005 Kootenai County Community Wildfire Protection Plan; 2005 Shoshone County Community Wildfire Protection Plan; and IPNF Annual Fire Management Plan.

Wildlife

Guideline:

1. Special use permits and operating plans (outfitter and guide, grazing) should specify sanitation measures to reduce wildlife conflicts and minimize bear mortality.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2600-Wildlife, Fish and Sensitive Plant Habitat Management; FSH 2609.13-Wildlife and Fisheries Program Management; FSM 2550-Soil Management; FSM 5150-Fuel Management; FSH 2509.18-Soil Management; and the Endangered Species Act (1973).

Connectivity

Sources of Design Criteria: Identifying and Managing Wildlife Linkage Approach Areas on Public Lands (2004); Identification and Management of Linkage zones for Wildlife Between the Large Blocks of Public Land in the Northern Rocky Mountains (2003); and Lynx Linkages Areas (2003).

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

Grizzly Bear

Guideline:

1. Within the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones; for those BMUs that do not currently (2003) meet standards for core, TMRD and OMRD those standards should be met in the following timeframes: by 2007 – 35 percent of those BMUs; by 2009 70 percent; and by 2011 all BMUs will meet standards (see the Forest Plan amendment and biological opinion for Motorized Access Management within the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones for the Kootenai, Idaho Panhandle, and Lolo National Forests).

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan (1993); the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Guidelines (1986); the Forest Plan Amendment for Motorized Access Management within the Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones (2002); and the Biological Opinion (2002).

Woodland Caribou

Guidelines:

1. Management activities within lands identified as capable habitat should enhance or facilitate the development of suitable habitat.
2. Management activities should avoid impacts to travel corridors that would reduce their effectiveness for movement by caribou.
3. Avoid or minimize disturbance in known caribou calving habitat from June 1 to July 15.
4. Avoid or minimize disturbance to caribou related to snowmobile use during the winter period (December 1 to April 30).

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Selkirk Mountain Caribou Management Plan/Recovery Plan; Woodland Caribou Cumulative Effects Analysis Model; Selkirk Mountains Caribou Herd Augmentation Plan; Caribou Habitat Management Guidelines and the Selkirk Mountain Woodland Caribou Recovery Plan; IPNF Winter Recreation Strategy; and Recovery Action Plan for the South Purcell and South Selkirk Mountain Caribou Populations.

Bald Eagle

Guideline:

1. Avoid or minimize disturbance within one-half mile of active (occupied) nest sites from February 1 to June 15, unless site-specific nest management plans determine other timeframes or distances are more appropriate.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Montana Bald Eagle Management Plan (1994); Pacific States Bald Eagle Recovery Plan (1986); and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (1940).

Gray Wolf

Guideline:

1. Avoid or minimize disturbance within one mile of active den sites between February 1 and May 30, unless site specific planning determines other distances and timeframes are more appropriate.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan (1987); Montana Gray Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (2003); and Idaho Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (2002).

Canada Lynx

Sources of Design Criteria: The Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy (LCAS) is being followed. Dialogue with US Fish and Wildlife Service continues; to discuss ways of incorporating the science for Canada lynx into Forest Service management. Ecology and Conservation of Lynx in the United States (1999) and Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy (LCAS) (2000).

Wildlife Species of Concern and Species of Interest

Guidelines:

1. Management activities should avoid or minimize disturbance to species of concern and species of interest and their habitats on NFS lands during critical life stages, as identified in the table below. These timeframes should be used unless project level analysis determines others may be used and still protect the species. Where nests of raptors or additional species of concern or species of interest are identified, other than those listed in Table 32 below, appropriate distances and timing of activities should be determined and implemented to minimize impacts to raptors and other resources.

Table 32. Wildlife Species of Concern and Species of Interest Activities Schedule

Species	Timing of Activities
Common loon nesting	April 15 – July 1
Northern goshawk nesting	April 1 – July 15
Wolverine dens	December 1 – April 30
Flammulated owl	May 1 – July 31
Harlequin duck nesting and rearing	April 15 – July 15
Peregrine falcon	March 1 – August 31

4. For those terrestrial mollusks identified as species of concern, protect documented locations and high probability habitat that may be impacted by project activities.
5. Management actions should consider species conservation assessments and strategies when conducting activities that may impact habitat.
6. Eliminate or minimize effects to rare or unique communities associated with management activities and recreational use (i.e., avoid winter motorized use) across fens or bogs with known bog lemming use.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSH 1909.12, Chapter 40-Land Management Planning Handbook, Science and Sustainability; Status Assessment and Conservation Plan for the Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) in North America; Montana Common Loon Management Plan (1998); The common loon in the northern Region: Biology and Management Recommendations (1994); The harlequin duck conservation assessment and strategy, Cassirer et al. 1996; Flammulated, boreal, and great gray owls in the United States: A technical conservation assessment (1994); Fisher Biology and Management: a literature review and adaptive management strategy (1994); Conservation Assessment for Fisher in Idaho (1995); Forest Carnivores in Idaho: habitat conservation assessments and conservation strategies (1995); Conservation Assessment for wolverine in Idaho (1995a); Wolverine, Lynx, and Fisher Habitat and Distribution Maps, Draft Hierarchical Approach and Draft Conservation Strategies (1994); Montana Comprehensive Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy (2005); Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (2005); Washington Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (2005); Status and Conservation Management of Terrestrial Mollusks of Special Concern in Montana (2003); and A Conservation Assessment of the Northern Goshawk Black-backed Woodpecker, Flammulated Owl, and Pileated Woodpecker in the Northern Region (2006).

Snag-associated Species

Guidelines:

1. In addition to the snag numbers described in [Table 3](#) of the Wildlife Desired Condition “Snags and Down Wood Desired Condition” section on page 1-22 in Chapter 1, vegetation management activities should retain all existing (no less than four per acre) large-diameter snags (greater than 20 inches DBH), where they exist, except for specifically identified instances for safety. Snag numbers are averaged by vegetation response unit (VRU) group over the planning subunit. In areas where these numbers are not attainable provide amounts as close as possible to those listed, substitute other species where possible to meet numbers listed, and document why conditions cannot be met.
2. Vegetation management activities should retain six to eight live trees per acre for future snags. Where it is determined not feasible to retain snags within a project area, additional live trees (at least three for each snag not retained) should be left on site.
3. Retained snags and snag recruits are designated as wildlife trees and should be left on site if felled or blown over.
4. Within each planning subunit, retain minimum snag numbers on at least 40 percent of the NFS lands that make up each biophysical setting.

Bats

Guideline:

1. Avoid or minimize disturbance of occupied caves and mines from May 1 to December 15 for maternity roosts and from October to April for hibernacula. Caves or abandoned mines with known bat use should be evaluated for gate installation.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Habitat conservation assessment and conservation strategy for the Townsend’s big-eared bat (1995); and Idaho Bat Conservation Plan (Draft 2005).

Migratory Birds

Sources of Design Criteria: Migratory Bird Treaty Act (1918); Migratory Bird Conservation Act (1929); Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act; Executive Order (EO) 13186 (2001); Montana Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plan (2000); and Idaho Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plan (2000).

Big Game

Guidelines:

1. Management activities should maintain a minimum of 30 percent thermal cover on big game winter range within each planning subunit.
2. Snowmobile use should avoid or minimize disturbance to mountain goats in occupied winter ranges, during the winter and spring seasons (December 1 to June 30).
3. Management activities should avoid or minimize disturbance to big game on winter range between December 1 and April 30, with the exception of through routes. Management activities that occur on winter range during the winter period should concentrate activities to reduce impacts to big game.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2600-Wildlife, Fish, and Sensitive Plant Habitat Management; FSH 2609.13-Wildlife and Fisheries Program Management Handbook; Guidelines for Evaluating and Managing Summer Elk Habitat in Northern Idaho (1984); Coordinating Elk and Timber Management/The Montana Cooperative Elk Logging Study (1985); Montana Elk Management Plan (2005); Mountain Goat Habitat Management Plan for the Cabinet Mountains, Montana (1980); Defining Elk Security; and Hillis Paradigm (1991).

Watersheds (Soil, Water, and Riparian Areas) and Aquatic Species

Watersheds

Guidelines:

1. New and renewed special use permits related to water uses should include appropriate terms and conditions to ensure that water quality and beneficial uses are fully protected.
2. Ground-disturbing activities in impaired watersheds (listed by the State under CWA section 303(d)) where an adopted TMDL is not available, should not cause a decline in water quality or further impair beneficial uses of the water. A short-term or incidental water quality departure may occur where there is no threat or impairment to the beneficial uses of the water when the State concurs.
3. Roads and trails that are removed or put into intermittent stored service from the Forest transportation network should be treated sufficiently to avoid future risks to watershed functions, water quality, or beneficial uses. Sufficient treatments may include:
 - Removal of all unstable fills;
 - Effective and permanent breeching of ditches;

- Elimination of persistent insloped treads (i.e., all remaining road tread is outsloped);
 - Complete removal of stream crossing structures and associated fills; and
 - Restoration of self-maintaining hydrologic functions on the site (i.e., no further management intervention to sustain natural process and function).
2. Ground-disturbing activities in source water areas (designated special or public water supply watersheds) should prevent or reduce risks and threats to public and domestic uses of the water.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 251.9-Land Uses; FSM 2500-Watershed and Air Management; FSH 2509.22-Soil and Water Conservation Handbook; Rules pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practice Act, Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code (BMPs); Rules pertaining to Stream Channel Protection, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code; Executive Order (EO) 11988 of May 24, 1977, (Management of Flood Plains); Executive Order (EO) 11990 of May 24, 1977; (Protection of Wetlands); and Executive Order (EO) 12088 of October 13, 1978, (Pollution prevention).

Soils

Guidelines:

1. When tops and limbs are left onsite for nutrient retention, they should remain for at least one winter season.
2. Long tractor skids should not occur on slopes greater than 35 to 40 percent without additional soil protection measures.
3. See recommended levels of residual coarse woody debris for soils in [Table 1](#) of the Vegetation Desired Condition “Down Wood Forestwide Desired Condition” section on page 1-9 in Chapter 1.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2550-Soil Management (R1 Supplement 2500-99-1); and FSH 2509.22 Soil and Water Conservation Handbook (and any future supplements).

Riparian Areas

Riparian guidelines apply to all Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs) and to projects and activities in areas outside the RCAs that may potentially degrade RCAs.

Guidelines:

1. When RCAs are intact and functioning at desired condition, then management activities should maintain or improve that condition.
2. When RCAs are not intact and functioning at desired condition, then management activities should include restoration components that exceed full compensation for project effects to promote a trend toward desired conditions.
3. Management activities in RCAs should not result in long-term degradation to aquatic conditions. Limited short-term effects from activities in the RCAs may be acceptable when they support long-term benefits to the RCAs and aquatic resources.
4. Soil and snow should not be sidecast into surface water.

5. New, replacement, and reconstructed crossing sites (culverts, bridges and other stream crossings) should be designed to:
 - Accommodate 100-year floods including associated bedloads and debris.
 - Prevent diversion of stream flow out of the channels.
 - Provide and maintain fish passage up to bankfull discharge.
6. Crossing locations on roads being put into long-term storage should provide fish passage.
7. Grazing management should prevent trampling of native fish redds by livestock.
8. Minimum impact suppression tactics should be used within RCAs.
9. Trees felled in RCAs for safety concerns should be left on site.
10. When drafting water from streams, pumps should be screened to prevent entrainment of fish and aquatic organisms.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSH 2509.22-Soil and Water Conservation Handbook (to include any future supplements); Rules pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practice Act, Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code (BMPs); Rules pertaining to Stream Channel Protection, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code; and Executive Order (EO) 11988 of May 24, 1977, (Management of Flood Plains).

Aquatic Species

Guidelines:

1. Activities that may harass native fish or directly deliver sediment to occupied native fish streams should be limited to the times outside of spawning and incubation seasons:
 - For streams with spring spawners, activities should not occur prior to July 15.
 - For streams with fall spawners, activities should not occur between September 1 and March 15.
 - Dates can be modified when stream-specific information on staging and spawning of native fishes supports changes.
2. Documented amphibian breeding sites should be buffered from management activities that have the potential to disturb such sites.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2600-Wildlife, Fish and Sensitive Plant Habitat Management; and FSH 2609.13-Wildlife and Fisheries Program Management Handbook.

Other Topics

Air Quality

Guideline:

1. The Forest should cooperate with the States in meeting the requirements of the State Implementation Plans (SIPs) and the Smoke Management Plans (SMPs).

Other Sources of Design Criteria: FSM 2580-Air Resource Management; FSM 5100-Fire Management; FSH 5109.19-Fire Management Analysis and Planning Handbook; Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); Columbia River Basin Air Quality Assessment (11/95)-Regional Pollution Potential (4/98)- Air Quality Climate of Columbia River Basin (8/98)- Region 1 Air Resource Management Plan (4/97); Lake Chemistry data from USFS NRIS Air web site; NADP data from NREL Web Site; EPA AIRS data base web site for emission sources; Screening Procedure to Evaluate Effects of Air Pollution in Region 1 Wilderness Areas (draft, 1997); Region 1 Air Quality Guidance for Oil and Gas Leasing (5/94); AQRV lichen and lake monitoring reports, Visibility Summary for Region 1 (4/91); and Desk Reference for NEPA Air Quality Analysis (1995).

Buildings and Other Structures

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 1190-Minimum Guidelines and Requirements for Accessible Design; 36 CFR 1191-Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities; Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Accessibility Guidelines; FSM 7300-Buildings and Other Structures; FSM 7400-Public Health and Pollution Control Facilities; FSM 7500-Water Storage and Transmission; FSM 7600-Electrical Engineering; FSH 7309.11-Buildings and Related Facilities Handbook; FSH 7409.11-Sanitary Engineering and Public Health Handbook; FSH 7509.11-Dams Management Handbook; R1 Supplement 7300-90-4; Built Environment Image Guide FS-710; International Building Code Handbook; and Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines and Architectural Barriers Act Guidelines.

Experimental Forests

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 219.2-Levels of Planning and Planning Authority; 36 CFR 251.23-Experimental Areas and Research Natural Areas; and FSM 4062-Experimental Forests, Ranges, Grasslands, and Watersheds.

Grazing

Guideline:

1. Permits for grazing on allotments without a current environmental analysis and decision should include the following utilization guidelines:
 - 35 percent maximum allowable utilization on palatable and available plant species on big game winter range sites.
 - 50 percent maximum allowable utilization on key forage species on all other sites.
 - Invasive plants that are not palatable should be excluded from utilization measures.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 222-Range Management; FSM 2200-Range Management; FSH 2209.13-Grazing Permit Administration Handbook; FSH 2209.21-Rangeland Ecosystem Analysis and Management Handbook; and 1978 Public Rangelands Improvement Act.

Heritage Resources

Guidelines:

1. Include historic property protection provisions in applicable contracts and special use permits.
2. Metal detectors should not be used to locate archaeological or historical artifacts except for scientific research as permitted by the forest.
3. Geocaching should not occur on historic properties.
4. Leave historic human remains undisturbed unless there is an urgent reason (e.g., human health and safety, natural event, etc.) for their disinterment.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 800-Protection of Historic Properties; 36 CFR 296-Protection or Archaeological Resources: Uniform Regulations; 36 CFR 60-National Register of Historic Places; FSM 2360-Special Interest Areas; Executive Order (EO) 11593-Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment; EO 13287-Preserve America; Section 106 Programmatic Agreement between Region 5, California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; Programmatic Agreement between the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer, the USFS Northern Region, and The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and the National Heritage Strategy.

Lands and Special Uses – Utility Corridors and Communication Sites

Guideline:

1. New electrical distribution (33 kv or less) and telephone lines should be buried unless one or more of the following applies:
 - Burial is not feasible due to geologic hazard or unfavorable geologic conditions.
 - Greater long-term site disturbance would result.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 212-Travel Management; 36 CFR 251-Land Uses; 36 CFR 254-Landownership Adjustments; FSM 1920-Land and Resource Management Planning; FSM 2700-Special Uses Management; FSM 5400-Landownership; FSM 5500-Landownership Title Management; FSM 7150-Surveying; FSM 7700-Travel Management; FSH 2709.11-Special Uses Handbook; FSH 2709.12-Road Rights-of-Way Grants Handbook; FSH 2709.15-Hydroelectric Handbook; FSH 5409.13-Land Acquisition Handbook; FSH 5409.17-Rights-of-Way Acquisition Handbook; FSH 5509.11-Title Claims, Sales, and Grants Handbook; R1 Supplement 114; R1 Supplement 2700-2003-1; R1 Supplement 2700-2004-1; R1 Supplement 2700-2004-2; R1 Supplement 2700-2004-3; R1 Supplement 2700-2004-4; R1 Supplement 2700-2005-1; Residential Access Policy; and 1992 Western Regional Corridor Study. Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Minerals

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 228-Minerals (Subparts A – Locatable Minerals, Subpart B – Leasable Minerals Subpart C – Disposal of Mineral Materials, Subpart D – Miscellaneous Minerals Provisions, Subpart E – Oil and Gas Resources); 36 CFR 251-Land Uses; 43 CFR 2300-Land Withdrawals; FSM 2760-Withdrawals; FSM 2800-Minerals and Geology; R1 Supplement 28; R1 Supplement 2800-94-1; R1 Supplement 2800-2003-; R1 Supplement 2004-2; and R1 Supplement 2800-2004-3.

Other Forest Products

Sources of Design Criteria: National Strategy for Special Forest Products, 2001.

Research Natural Areas (RNAs)

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 251.23-Experimental Areas and Research Natural Areas; FSM 4063-Research Natural Areas; and RNA Designation Reports and Management Plans.

Special Interest Areas (SIAs)

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 219 - Planning; 36 CFR 261-Prohibitions; 36 CFR 294-Special Areas; 36 CFR 296-Protection of Archaeological Resources: Uniform Regulations; FSM 2360-Special Interest Areas, and FSM 2370-Special Recreation Designations.

Tribal Consultation

Guidelines:

1. Consult with Tribes when management activities may impact treaty rights and/or cultural sites and cultural use, according to the Consultation Protocol.
2. Geocaching should not occur in traditional cultural use areas.

Other Sources of Design Criteria: Executive Order (EO) 13084-Consultation with Indian Tribal Governments; EO 13175-Consultation with Indian Tribal Governments; and Forest Service National Resource Book on American Indian and Alaska Native Relations.

Wild and Scenic Rivers (W&SRs)

Sources of Design Criteria: 36 CFR 297-Wild and Scenic Rivers; FSM 1924-Wild and Scenic River Evaluation; FSM 2354-River Recreation Management; and FSH 1909.12-Land and Resource Management Planning Handbook: Chapter 80-Wild and Scenic River Evaluation

Acronyms

AMS	Analysis of the Management Situation
ANILCA	Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act
BMP	Best Management Practices
BMU	Bear Management Unit
BORZ	Bears Outside of Recovery Zone
CER	Comprehensive Evaluation Report
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DBH	Diameter Breast Height
EMS	Environmental Management System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAR	Functioning-At Risk
FRCC	Fire Regime Condition Class
FSH	Forest Service Handbook
FSM	Forest Service Manual
GA	Geographic Area
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
ICBEMP	Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project
IPNF	Idaho Panhandle National Forests
IRA	Inventoried Roadless Area
KIPZ	Kootenai Idaho Panhandle Plan Revision Zone
KNF	Kootenai National Forest
LAU	Lynx Analysis Unit
LMP	Land Management Plan
LTSYC	Long-Term Sustained Yield Capacity
MA	Management Area
MMBF	Million Board Feet
MMCF	Million Cubic Feet
NF	National Forest
NFS	National Forest System
NPF	Not Properly Functioning
OHV	Off-highway Vehicle
OMRD	Open Motorized Road Density
PFC	Properly Functioning Condition
RCAs	Riparian Conservation Areas
RNA	Research Natural Area
SIA	Special Interest Area
SOC	Species of Concern
SOI	Species of Interest
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TMRD	Total Motorized Road Density
TSPQ	Timber Sale Program Quantity
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VRU	Vegetation Response Unit
W&SRs	Wild and Scenic Rivers
WFSA	Wildland Fire Situation Analysis
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
WUI	Wildland Urban Interface

Glossary

Term	Definition
Activity Area	A land area affected by a management activity to which soil quality standards are applied. Activity areas include harvest units within timber sale areas, prescribed burn areas, recreation areas, and grazing areas or pastures within range allotments.
Adaptive Management	An approach to natural resource management where actions are designed and executed and effects are monitored for the purpose of learning and adjusting future management actions, which improves the efficiency and responsiveness of management.
Ancient Cedar Groves	Stands containing some cedar trees 60 inches or greater DBH and/or 500 years old. The density of 60 inches or greater DBH trees may be low and the distribution is often patchy, but these big (and/or old trees) can be found at least occasionally, scattered across the grove. Usually covers at least one-half acre in area, unless there is a concentration of 60 inches or greater DBH trees on a smaller area. In the same stand, there are often (but not always) additional unusually large 48 inches or greater DBH trees.
Approach Areas	Areas on public lands, adjacent to fracture zones, that will be managed to facilitate animal movements.
Aquatic Ecosystem	Waters of the United States that serve as habitat for interrelated and interacting communities and populations of plants and animals. The stream channel, lake or estuary bed, water, biotic communities and the habitat features that occur therein.
Bear Year	The active bear year is from April 1 to November 15. [Spring (April 1 to June 15), summer (June 16 to September 15), fall (September 16 to November 15), winter (November 16 to March 30)].
Bears Outside of Recovery Zone (BORZ/occupied territory)	An area where one would reasonably expect to find grizzly bear use occurring during most years.
Bear Management Unit (BMU)	Areas established for use in grizzly bear analysis. BMUs generally a) approximate female home range size; and b) include representations of all available habitat components.
Beneficial Uses	Any of the various uses which may be made of the water, including, but not limited to, domestic water supplies, fisheries and other aquatic life, industrial water supplies, agricultural water supplies, navigation, recreation in and on the water, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics.

Term	Definition
Best Management Practices (BMPs)	Practice or set of practices that enable a planned activity to occur while still protecting the resource managed, normally implemented and applied during the activity rather than after the activity.
Best Management Practices (BMPs) (Watershed)	A practice or a combination of practices, that is determined by the State (or designated area-wide planning agency) after problem assessment, examination of alternative practices, and appropriate public participation to be the most effective, practicable (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) means of preventing, or reducing the amount of pollution generated by nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals.
Big Game	Those species of large mammals normally managed as a sport hunting resource. Generally includes; elk, moose, white-tailed deer, mule deer, mountain goat, bighorn sheep, black bear & mountain lion.
Biophysical Setting	An aggregation of vegetation response units, grouped by broad, climatic modifiers including temperature and moisture gradients.
Capable Habitat (Caribou)	Habitat that may not be currently suitable for caribou because of variable stand attributes such as in appropriate seral stage, cover type or stand density. Utilized by caribou for travel between suitable feeding sites, movement within the ecosystem and as lower quality feeding sites.
Cavity	The hollow excavated in a tree that is used by birds or mammals for roosting and/or reproduction.
Coarse Woody Debris	Provides living spaces for a host of organisms and serves as long-term storage sites for moisture, nutrients, and energy. Coarse woody debris consists of any woody material greater than three inches in diameter and is derived from tree limbs, boles, roots, and large (>12 inches in diameter) wood fragments and fallen trees in various stages of decay.
Community (Ecological)	A group of organisms living together; any group of interacting organisms.
Community Protection Zone	An area of reduced fuels immediately adjacent to a community that can provide options for firefighters to control fire in this space, and that can provide a safety zone and area where firefighters are “free from danger, risk, or injury”.

Term	Definition
Connectivity	The arrangements of habitats that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape; patches of similar habitats are either close together or linked by corridors of approved vegetation. The opposite of fragmentation.
Cover	<p>Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators, or to ameliorate conditions of weather, or in which to reproduce.</p> <p>Hiding cover – vegetation primarily trees, capable of hiding 90 percent of a standing adult animal from the view of a human at a distance of 200 feet or less.</p> <p>Thermal cover – cover used by animals to ameliorate chilling effects of weather, for elk, a stand of coniferous trees 40 feet or taller with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more.</p>
Critical (Key) Habitat	Specific areas within the geographic area occupied by the species on which are found those physical and biological features 1) essential to the conservation of the species, and 2) which may require special management considerations or protection.
Decommission	Demolition, dismantling, removal, obliteration and/or disposal of a deteriorated or otherwise unneeded asset or component, including necessary cleanup work. This action eliminates the deferred maintenance needs for the fixed asset. Portions of an asset or component may remain if they do not cause problems nor require maintenance.
Deferred Maintenance	Maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled and which, therefore, was put off or delayed for a future period. When allowed to accumulate without limits or consideration of useful life, deferred maintenance leads to deterioration of performance, increased costs to repair, and decrease in asset value. Deferred maintenance needs may be categorized as critical or noncritical at any point in time. Continued deferral of noncritical maintenance will normally result in an increase in critical deferred maintenance. Code compliance (e.g., life safety, ADA, OSHA, environmental, etc.), Forest Plan Direction, Best Management Practices, Biological Evaluations other regulatory or Executive Order compliance requirements, or applicable standards not met on schedule are considered deferred maintenance.
Designated Route	A National Forest System road or a National Forest system trail on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51 on a motor vehicle use map.

Term	Definition
Disturbance	A discrete event that changes existing plant community composition or structure, and interrupts, changes, or resets the ongoing successional sequence.
Documented Amphibian Breeding Sites	Field-validated locations where amphibians are known to breed, usually found at temporary or permanent water sources such as lakes, ponds, marshes, meadows, streams, reservoirs, and irrigation ditches.
Documented Populations	Wildlife or plant populations with field validated occurrences or locations.
Early Succession	See <i>Succession</i>
Ecological Conditions	Components of the biological and physical environment that can affect diversity of plant and animal communities and the productive capacity of ecological systems. These components could include the abundance and distribution of aquatic and terrestrial habitats, roads and other structural developments, human uses, and invasive, exotic species (36 CFR 219.16).
Ecosystems	A spatially explicit, unit of the earth that includes all the organisms, along with all components of the abiotic environment within its boundaries.
Ecosystem Diversity	The variety and relative extent of ecosystem types, including their composition, structure, and processes within all or a part of an area of analysis.
Ecological Integrity	<p>The capacity to support and maintain a balanced, integrated, and adaptive biological system having the full range of elements and processes expected in a region's natural habitat.</p> <p>"...the ability to support and maintain a balanced, integrated, adaptive community of organisms having a species composition, diversity, and functional organization comparable to that of the natural habitat of the region." That is, an ecosystem is said to have high integrity if its full complement of native species is present in normal distributions and abundances, and if normal dynamic functions are in place and working properly. In systems with integrity, the "...capacity for self-repair when perturbed is preserved, and minimal external support for management is needed."</p>
Endangered Species	A plant or animal species listed under the Endangered Species Act that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Term	Definition
Environmental Management System (EMS)	<p>Part of an organization's (3.16) management system used to develop and implement its environmental policy and manage its environmental aspects. A management system is a set of interrelated elements used to establish policy and objectives and to achieve those objectives.</p> <p>A management system includes organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures (3.19), processes, and resources.</p>
Existing Old Growth	NFS lands that have been determined to meet Northern Region old growth definitions as outlined in Green and others, corrected 02/2005.
Experimental Forests	One of a series of areas established by the Forest Service in each Region to provide for the research necessary to serve as a basis for managing forests and rangeland.
Final Regeneration Harvest	Timber harvest designed to regenerate a timber stand or release a regenerated stand. This includes clearcut, removal cut of a shelterwood or seed tree system, and selection cut.
Fire Management Plan	A plan that identifies and integrates all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of approved land/resource management plans. It defines a program to manage wildland fires (wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use). The plan is supplemented by operational plans, including but limited to preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, and prevention plans. Fire management plans assure that wildland fire management goals and components are coordinated.
Fire Regime	<p>A natural fire regime is a general classification of the role fire would play across a landscape in the absence of modern human mechanical intervention but including the influence of aboriginal burning (Agee 1993; Brown 1995). Coarse-scale definitions for natural fire regimes were developed by Hardy and others (2001) and Schmidt and others (2002) and interpreted for fire and fuels management by Hann and Bunnell (2001). The five natural fire regimes are classified based on the average number of years between fires (fire frequency or Mean Fire Interval [MFI]) combined with the severity of the fire (the amount of vegetation replacement) and its effect on the dominant overstory vegetation. These five natural fire regimes are as follows:</p> <p>I – 0 to 35-year frequency and low severity (most commonly associated with surface fires) to mixed severity (in which less than 75 percent of the dominant overstory vegetation is replaced)</p> <p>II – 0 to 35-year frequency and high severity (stand replacement: greater than 75 percent of the dominant overstory vegetation is replaced)</p> <p>III – 35 to 100+ year frequency and mixed severity</p>

Term	Definition
	<p>IV – 35 to 200+ year frequency and high severity</p> <p>V – 200+ year frequency and high severity</p>
<p>Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC)</p>	<p>A classification of the degree of departure from the natural fire regime. The FRCC classification is based on a relative measure describing the degree of departure from the historical natural fire regime. This departure can result in changes (or risks) to one, or more, of the following ecological components: vegetation (species composition, structural stages, stand age, canopy closure, and mosaic pattern across the landscape); fuel composition; fire frequency, severity, and pattern; and other associated disturbances.</p> <p>Condition Class 1: Fire regimes are within the natural (historical) range, and the risk of losing key ecosystem components is low. Vegetation attributes (species composition, structure, and pattern) are intact and functioning within the natural (historical) range.</p> <p>Condition Class 2: Fire regimes have been moderately altered from their natural (historical) range. Risk of losing key ecosystem components is moderate. Fire frequencies have departed from natural frequencies by one or more return intervals (either increased or decreased). This result in moderate changes to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity and severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation and fuel attributes have been moderately altered from their natural (historical) range.</p> <p>Condition Class 3: Fire regimes have been substantially altered from their natural (historical) range. The risk of losing key ecosystem components is high. Fire frequencies have departed from natural frequencies by multiple return intervals. Dramatic changes occur to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity, severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been substantially altered from their natural (historical) range.</p>
<p>Forest Health</p>	<p>The perceived condition of a forest derived from concerns about such factors as its age, structure, composition, function, vigor, presence of unusual levels of insects and disease and resilience to disturbance. Perception and interpretation of forest health are influenced by individual and cultural viewpoints, land management objectives, spatial and temporal scales, the relative health in stands that comprise the forest, and the appearance of the forest at a point in time.</p>
<p>Fracture Zones</p>	<p>Highways, railroads and similar potential barriers to wildlife movement and the adjacent developed private lands, typically in mountain valleys between large tracts of public lands.</p>
<p>Fragmentation</p>	<p>A condition in which a continuous area is reduced and divided into smaller sections. Habitat can be fragmented by natural events or development activities.</p>

Term	Definition
Fuel Treatment	Any manipulation or removal of fuels to reduce the likelihood of ignition or to lessen potential damage and resistance to control.
Functioning at Risk (FAR)	See <i>Watershed Condition</i>
Geocaching	An outdoor activity that most often involves the use of a Global Positioning System (“GPS”) receiver or traditional navigational techniques to find a “geocache” (or “cache”) placed anywhere in the world. A typical cache is a small, waterproof container containing a logbook and “treasure,” usually trinkets of little value. Participants are called geocachers.
Grizzly Bear Core Habitat	An area of secure habitat within a BMU that contains no motorized travel routes or high use nonmotorized trails during the non-denning season and is more than 0.3 miles (500 meters) from a drivable road. Core areas do not include any gated roads but may contain roads that are impassible due to vegetation or constructed barriers. Core areas strive to contain the full range of seasonal habitats that are available in the BMU.
Grizzly Bear Recovery Zone	<p>The area in each grizzly bear ecosystem within which the population and habitat criteria for achievement of recovery will be measured.</p> <p>Selkirk and Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear recovery zones: These zones are two of six grizzly bear recovery zones identified in the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan (USFWS 1993). Located in northwestern Montana, northern Idaho, northeastern Washington, and British Columbia, the two ecosystems encompass 4,560 square miles of habitat. Portions of the Kootenai, Idaho Panhandle, and Colville Forests, and Kootenay Lakes Forest District (B.C.) are included in the recovery areas.</p>
Habitat Connectivity	The arrangements of habitats that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape; patches of similar habitats are either close together or linked by corridors of approved vegetation. The opposite of fragmentation.
Habitat Guilds	A set of species that share a common habitat (such as old growth forests), that use the same resources (such as food), or that use resources in the same manner (such as mode of foraging). A group of organisms having similar ecological niches and/or life forms. Competition is expected to be important within guilds. See Appendix A of this Plan for further discussion on habitat guilds.

Term	Definition
Head Month (HM)	One month's use and occupancy of the range by one animal. For grazing fee purposes, it is a month's use and occupancy of range by one weaned or adult cow with or without calf, bull, steer, heifer, horse, burro, or mule, or five sheep or goats.
Hibernacula	Habitat niches where certain animals (e.g., bats) overwinter, such as caves, mines, tree hollows, or loose bark.
Hiding Cover	Vegetation capable of hiding 90 percent of a bull elk or adult deer from the view of a human at a distance equal to or less than 200 feet during all seasons of the year that elk or deer use the area. Generally, any vegetation used for security or to escape from danger.
Hydrologic Unit (HU)	A hydrologic unit is a drainage area delineated to nest in a multi-level, hierarchical drainage system. Its boundaries are defined by hydrographic and topographic criteria that delineate an area of land upstream from a specific point on a river, stream or similar surface waters. A hydrologic unit can accept surface water directly from upstream drainage areas, and indirectly from associated surface areas such as remnant, non-contributing, and diversions to form a drainage area with single or multiple outlet points. Hydrologic units are only synonymous with classic watersheds when their boundaries include all the source area contributing surface water to a single defined outlet point."
Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)	The numeric identifier of a specific hydrologic unit consisting of a 2-digit sequence for each specific level within the delineation hierarchy. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="586 1205 1409 1270">2. 4th code refers to the 4th pair of an 8-digit code of a "sub-basin" HU that are generally 450,000 acres in size. <li data-bbox="586 1283 1409 1348">3. 5th code refers to the 5th pair of a 10-digit code of a "watershed" HU that generally ranges from 40,000 to 250,000 acres in size. <li data-bbox="586 1360 1409 1457">4. 6th code refers to the 6th pair of a 10-digit code of a "sub-watershed" HU that generally ranges from 10,000 to 40,000 acres in size.
Incidental Take	Take of listed fish or wildlife species that results from, but is not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity conducted by a Federal agency or applicant.
Instream Flows	Streamflow regime required to satisfy a mixture of conjunctive demands being placed on water while it is in the stream.
Integrated Pest Management	A process for selecting strategies to regulate forest pests in which all aspects of a pest-host system are studied and weighed.

Term	Definition
Intermittent Stored Service	An existing road where future use is expected but not known and is currently closed to vehicle traffic. The road is in a condition that there is little resource risk if maintenance is not performed.
Invasive Plant Species	Invasive plants are plants that have been introduced into an environment in which they did not evolve and thus usually have not natural enemies to limit their reproduction and spread.
Invasive Species	Invasive species are an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Alien species are any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem (with respect to a particular ecosystem).
Inventoried Roadless Area	Areas identified in a set of inventoried roadless area maps, contained in the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, dated November 2000, and any subsequent update or revision of those maps through the land management planning process.
Landscape Pattern	Number, frequency, size and juxtaposition of landscape elements (stands and patches) that are important to the determination or interpretation of ecological processes.
Large Woody Debris	<p>Large pieces of relatively stable woody material located within the bankfull channel and appearing to influence bankfull flows. There are categorized as singles, aggregates, or rootwads.</p> <p>Single – A single piece that has a length equal to or greater than 3 meters or two-thirds of the wetted stream width and 10 cm in diameter one-third of the way from the base.</p> <p>Aggregate – Two or more clumped pieces, each of which qualifies as a single piece.</p> <p>Rootwad – Rootmass or boles attached to a log less than 3 meters in length.</p>
Late Succession	See <i>Succession</i>
Linkage Zones	The area between larger blocks of habitat where animals can live at certain seasons and where they can find the security they need to successfully move between these larger habitat blocks.
Long-term Sustained Yield Timber Capacity (LTSYC)	The highest uniform wood yield that may be sustained under specified management intensities consistent with multiple-use objectives after stands have reached desired conditions.

Term	Definition
Lynx Analysis Units (LAU)	An area of at least the size used by an individual lynx, from about 25 to 50 square miles. A project analysis unit upon which direct, indirect and cumulative effects analyses are performed.
Maintenance	The upkeep of the entire forest development transportation facility including surface and shoulders, parking and side areas, structures, and such traffic-control devices as are necessary for its safe and efficient utilization.
Mechanized	Wheeled forms of transportation (including nonmotorized carts, wheelbarrows, bicycles and any other nonmotorized, wheeled vehicle.
Mid-succession	See <i>Succession</i>
Minerals-Locatable	Those hardrock minerals that are mined and processed for the recovery of metals. They also may include certain nonmetallic minerals and uncommon varieties of mineral materials, such as valuable and distinctive deposits of limestone or silica.
Minerals-Leasable	Coal, oil, gas, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil shale, sulphur, and geothermal resources.
Minerals- Materials (Salable)	A collective term to describe common varieties of sand, gravel, stone, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay, and other similar materials. Common varieties do not include deposits of those materials that may be locatable.
Mitigation	Measures implemented to minimize, reduce, rectify, avoid, eliminate, and/or compensate the potential impacts to resources identified in the effects analysis.
Mixed Severity Fire	A fire severity classification where at least 5 percent, but less than 75 percent replacement of the upper layer of vegetation is removed.
Municipal Supply Watersheds (public supply watersheds)	A watershed that serves a public water system as defined in Public Law 93-523 (Safe Drinking Water Act); or as defined in State safe drinking water regulations. The definition does not include communities served by a well or confined groundwater unaffected by Forest Service activities.
Native Species	Animals or plants that have historically occupied a given aquatic or terrestrial area.
New Invaders	Weeds that have either not been detected in the state or may be found in small, scattered, localized infestations.

Term	Definition
Non-Game	Those species of animals that are not managed as a sport hunting resource.
Not Properly Functioning (NPF)	See <i>Watershed Condition</i>
Noxious Weeds	Plants designated as noxious weeds by the Secretary of Agriculture or by the responsible State official. Noxious weeds generally possess one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage, poisonous, toxic, parasitic, a carrier or host of serious insects or disease, and being native or new to or not common to the united states or parts thereof.
Objective Maintenance Level (roads)	<p>Defines the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road, consistent with road management objectives and maintenance criteria. The maintenance level to be assigned at a future date considering future road management objectives, traffic needs, budget constraints, and environmental concerns. The objective maintenance level may be the same as, or higher or lower than, the operational maintenance level.</p> <p>Maintenance Level 1: Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period must exceed 1 year. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resource to an acceptable level and to perpetuate the road to facilitate future management activities. Emphasis is normally given to maintaining drainage facilities and runoff patterns. Planned road deterioration may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are “prohibit” and “eliminate”. Roads receiving level 1 maintenance may be of any type, class or construction standard, and may be managed at any other maintenance level during the time they are open for traffic. However, while being maintained at level 1, they are closed to vehicular traffic, but may be open and suitable for nonmotorized uses.</p> <p>Maintenance Level 2: Assigned to roads open for use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration. Traffic is normally minor, usually consisting of one or a combination of administrative, permitted, dispersed recreation, or other specialized uses. Log haul may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either (1) discourage or prohibit passenger cars or (2) accept or discourage high clearance vehicles.</p> <p>Maintenance Level 3: Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent driver in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities. Roads in this maintenance level are typically low speed, single lane with turnouts and spot surfacing. Some roads may be fully surfaced with either</p>

Term	Definition
	<p>native or processed material. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either “encourage” or “accept.” “Discourage” or “prohibit” strategies may be employed for certain classes of vehicles or users.</p> <p>Maintenance Level 4: Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds. Most roads are double lane and aggregate surfaced. However, some roads may be single lane. Some roads may be paved and/or dust abated. The most appropriate traffic management strategy is “encourage.” However, the “prohibit” strategy may apply to specific classes of vehicles or users at certain times.</p> <p>Maintenance Level 5: Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. Normally, roads are double-lane, paved facilities. Some may be aggregate surfaced and dust abated. The appropriate traffic management strategy is “encourage.”</p>
Off-highway Vehicle (OHV)	Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain. In the IPNF Plan, we exclude over snow and over water vehicles from this definition.
Old Growth	<p>Old growth forests encompass the late stages of stand development, and are distinguished by old trees and related structural attributes. Old growth stands are typically distinguished from earlier stages by combinations of characteristics such as tree age, tree size, number of large old trees per acre, and stand density (expressed as basal area). Specific values for these attributes vary by local ecological type and forest type. Other characteristics sometimes associated with old growth (canopy layers, snags, down wood, etc) are not part of the old growth definition, because these can vary greatly even in stands that are clearly old growth. The associated characteristics may sometimes be useful in assessing certain specific resource values.</p> <p>The old growth definitions are the USFS Northern Region definitions as documented in: Green, P.; Joy, J.; Sirucek, D.; Hann, W.; Zack, A.; Naumann, B. 1992 (errata corrected 02/2005). Old Growth Forest Types of the Northern Region. If this is revised or replaced by the Northern Region, the IPNF will use the updated version.</p>
Open Motorized Route Density (OMRD)	Calculation made with the moving windows technique that includes open roads, other roads not meeting all restricted or obliterated criteria, and open motorized trails. The percent of the analysis area in relevant route density classes are calculated.
Openings	Refer to meadows, clearcuts, and other areas of vegetation that do not provide hiding or thermal cover.

Term	Definition
Outstandingly Remarkable Value (W&SRs)	A river-related value that is a rare, unique, or exemplary feature that is significant at a comparative regional or national scale.
Plan Area	The National Forest System lands covered by a plan.
Population (Ecological)	Organisms of the same species that occur in a particular place at a given time.
Prescribed Fire	Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives. A written, approved prescribed fire plan must exist, and NEPA requirements (where applicable) must be met, prior to ignition.
Properly Functioning Condition (PFC)	See <i>Watershed Condition</i>
Proposed Species	Any species that is proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service to be listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.
Public Water System	<p>A public water system (PWS) is a system for the provision of water to the public for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals at least 60 days out of the year.</p> <p>A public water system can be one of three types:</p> <p>Community Water System: Serves at least 15 service connections or 25 people year round in their primary residences (e.g., most cities and towns, apartments, and mobile home parks with their own water supplies).</p> <p>Non-transient Non-community Water System (NTNCWS): Serves at least 25 of the same persons over six months per year (e.g., schools, churches, nursing homes, factories, and hospitals that have their own water source).</p> <p>Transient Non-community Water System (TNCWS): Serves an average of at least 25 persons (but not the same 25) less than six months per year (e.g., campgrounds or highway rest stops that have their own water source).</p>
Range of Variation	Spatial and temporal variation in ecosystem characteristics during a period of time when the influences of European-American settlement were minimal.
Recreation sites	Specific places in the Forest other than roads and trails that are used for recreational activities. These sites include a wide range of

Term	Definition
	recreational activities and associated development. These sites include highly developed facilities like ski areas, resorts, and campgrounds. It also includes dispersed recreation sites that have few or no improvements but show the affects of repeated recreation use.
Restoration	Restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed. It is an intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem with respect to its health, integrity, and sustainability.
Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs)	<p>Portions of watersheds where riparian-dependent resources receive primary emphasis and management activities are subject to specific guidelines. The followings RCA widths are based on the best available science and apply to all aquatic habitats.</p> <p>Category 1 – Fish-bearing streams: RCAs consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest.</p> <p>Category 2 – Permanently flowing non-fish bearing streams: RCAs consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance (300 feet, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest.</p> <p>Category 3 - Ponds, lakes, reservoirs and wetlands greater than 1 acre: RCAs consist of the body of water or wetland and the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to the extent of the seasonally saturated soil,-to the extent of moderately and highly unstable areas, or to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance from the edge of the maximum pool elevation of constructed ponds and reservoirs or from the edge of the wetland, pond or lake, whichever is greatest.</p> <p>Category 4 – Seasonally flowing or intermittent streams, wetlands less than one acre: This category includes features with high variability in size and site-specific characteristics. At a minimum, the RCAs must include the area from the edges of the stream channel or wetland, to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 100 feet slope distance, whichever is greatest.</p>
Risk	A combination of 1) the likelihood that a negative outcome will occur and 2) the severity of the subsequent negative consequences.

Term	Definition
Risk Factors	Land-use disturbances that are negatively affecting watershed functions and processes and stream-riparian environments.
Road	A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail.
Road Maintenance	The ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road in accordance with its road management objective.
Road Construction	Activity that results in the addition of Forest classified or temporary road miles.
Road Reconstruction	<p>Activity that results in improvement or realignment of an existing classified road defined as follows:</p> <p>Road improvement - Activity that results in an increase of an existing road's traffic service level, expansion of its capacity, or a change in its original design function.</p> <p>Road realignment - Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road, and treatment of the old roadway.</p>
Scenic Integrity Objective	An established goal for the management of the scenic resource applied to a specific portion of the forest.
Security	An area where wildlife (such as elk) retreat to for safety when disturbance in their usual range is intensified – such as by logging activities or during the hunting season. To qualify as a security area for elk there must be 250 contiguous acres that are more than one-half mile from open roads.
Self-sustaining Populations	Populations that are sufficiently abundant, interacting, and well-distributed in the plan area, within the bounds of their life history and distribution of the species and the capability of the landscape, to provide for their long-term persistence, resilience and adaptability over multiple generations.
Sensitive Soils	Forest land areas that have a moderate to very high hazard for soil compaction. Erosion, displacement, mass wasting, or forest floor displacement.
Snag	A standing dead tree usually greater than five feet in height and six inches in diameter at breast height (DBH).
Soil-Hydrologic Function	Pertains to how soils interact with water. Includes saturated and unsaturated flows within the soil profile.

Term	Definition
Soil Productivity	The inherent capacity of a soil to support the growth of specified plants, plant communities, and soil biota. It is often expressed by some measure of biomass accumulation.
Source Water Areas	Source water areas contain untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes or underground aquifers that is used to supply private wells and public drinking water.
Special Use Authorization	A permit, term permit, lease, or easement that allows occupancy, use, rights, or privileges of NFS land.
Species of Concern	Species for which management actions may be necessary to prevent listing under the Endangered Species Act.
Species of Greatest Conservation Need	Species identified as being “in greatest need of conservation” as part of the State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies.
Species of Interest	Species for which management actions may be necessary or desirable to achieve ecological or other multiple-use objectives.
Stand Replacement Fire	A fire severity classification where at least 75 percent replacement of the upper layer of vegetation is removed.
Stronghold	Directly associated with strong populations. For native fish, strong populations have stable numbers or are increasing, and all major life history forms that historically occurred within the watershed are present.
Succession	<p>The sequential replacement over time of one plant community by another, in the absence of major disturbance. The different stages of succession are often referred to as seral stages. Developmental stages are as follows:</p> <p>Early seral: Communities that occur early in the successional path and generally have less complex structural developmental than other successional communities. Seedling and sapling size classes are an example of early seral forests.</p> <p>Mid-seral: Communities that occur in the middle of the successional path. For forests, this usually corresponds to the pole or medium sawtimber growth stages.</p> <p>Late-seral: Communities that occur in the later stage of the successional path with mature, generally larger individuals, such as mature forests.</p>

Term	Definition
Suitable Habitat	Habitat that currently has both the fixed and variable stand attributes for a given species habitat requirements. Variable attributes change over time and may include seral stage, cover type and overstory canopy cover.
Suitability	The appropriateness of a particular area of land for applying certain resource management practices, as determined by an analysis of the existing resource condition and the social, economic, and environmental consequences and the alternative uses foregone. A unit of land may be suitable for a variety of individual or combined management practices.
Summer (Recreation)	May 1 through November 30 every year. This is the period defined for the suitable-use tables for summer motorized and nonmotorized activities.
Sustainability	Meeting needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability is composed of desirable social, economic, and ecological, economic conditions or trends interacting at varying spatial and temporal scales embodying the principles of multiple-use and sustained yield.
Take	Regarding species listed under the Endangered Species Act: To harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct.
Temporary Road or Trail	A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization that is not a forest road or a forest trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.
Threatened Species	Any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and which the appropriate Secretary has designated as a threatened species.
Thermal Cover	Cover used by animals to ameliorate effects of weather; for elk, a stand of coniferous trees 40 feet or more tall with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more, for deer, cover may include saplings, shrubs, or trees at least five feet tall with 75 percent crown closure.
303d-listed Waterbodies	A stream or other waterbody that is listed by the State as being “water quality impaired” by a pollutant in their current 303(d) list or 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report.

Term	Definition
Timber Sale Program Quantity (TSPQ)	The estimated average output of timber from the plan area. It includes projected outputs from lands generally suitable for timber harvest.. The projected timber outputs reflect past and projected budget levels and organizational capacity to achieve the desired conditions and objectives in the plan.
Timber Harvest	The removal of trees for wood fiber utilization and other multiple-use purposes.
Timber Production	The purposeful growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of regulated crops of trees to be cut into logs, bolts, or other round sections for industrial or consumer use. In addition, managing land to provide commercial timber products on a regulated basis with planned, scheduled entries.
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	An estimate of the total quantity of pollutants (from all sources - point, nonpoint, and natural) that may be allowed into waters without exceeding applicable water quality standards.
Total Motorized Route Density (TMRD)	Calculations made with the moving windows technique that includes open roads, restricted roads, roads not meeting all reclaimed criteria, and open motorized trails. The percent of the analysis area in relevant route density classes is calculated.
Traditional Cultural Areas	Those areas of the forest used by American Indians for traditional activities and often referred to as “religious use areas” or “sacred areas.” They may include areas traditionally used for gathering of special forest products.
Trail	A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail.
Travel Corridors	An area of vegetation that provides completely or partially suitable habitat for animals to travel from one location to another.
Unauthorized Road or Trail	A road or trail that is not a forest road or trail or a temporary road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.
Ungulate	A hoofed mammal such as a deer or elk.
Utility Corridor	A parcel of land, without fixed limits or boundaries that is being used as the location for one or more transportation or utility rights-of-way.

Term	Definition
Vegetation Condition Class	<p>A measure of vegetation conditions (dominance types and size class) around a historic mean.</p> <p>Class A: Central historic range, vegetation conditions +/- 33 percent of historic mean.</p> <p>Class B: Moderate historic range, vegetation conditions +/- 34 - 67 percent of historic mean.</p> <p>Class C: Uncharacteristic historic range, vegetation conditions +/- >67 percent of historic mean.</p> <p>Central historic range contains the variability that would be expected with the common disturbances and successional processes that are typical of the system. Moderate historic range contains the variability that might occasionally occur as a result of a relatively uncommon (but not unknown) sequence of large changes in disturbance processes over a relatively short period of time. Uncharacteristic historic range represents changes that are not characteristic of historic disturbance and successional processes under the last few centuries of climatic conditions, and could result in significant changes in ecosystem components and the way they function.</p>
Vegetation Management	<p>Activities designed primarily to promote the health of forest vegetation in order to achieve desired results. When vegetation is actively managed, it means that it is manipulated or changed on purpose by humans to produce desired results. Where active management of vegetation is required, techniques are based on the latest scientific research and mimic natural processes as closely as possible. Vegetation management is the practice of manipulating the species mix, age, fuel load, and/or distribution of wildland plant communities within a prescribed or designated management area in order to achieve desired results. It includes prescribed burning, grazing, chemical applications, biomass harvesting, and any other economically feasible methods of enhancing, retarding, modifying, transplanting, or removing the aboveground parts of plants.</p>
Vegetation Response Unit (VRU)	<p>Units of land with vegetative communities that have broadly similar disturbance responses and successional pathways, and that produce similar landscape-scale vegetation patterns. VRUs are typically groups of habitat types aggregated by landform and topographic characteristics that regulate disturbance regimes and successional response. Historically lands within a given VRU were subject to broadly similar disturbance regimes.</p>
Watershed	<p>A geographic area of land, water, and biota within the confines of a drainage divide. The total area above a given point of a water body that contributes flow to that point.</p>
Watershed Condition	<p>The state of the watershed based on physical and biogeochemical</p>

Term	Definition
	<p>characteristics and processes (such as, hydrologic, geomorphic, landscape, topographic, vegetative cover, and aquatic habitat), water flow characteristics and processes (such as volume and timing), and water quality characteristics and processes (such as chemical, physical, and biological) as they affect water quality and water resources.</p> <p>Properly Functioning Condition (PFC): Watersheds in “properly functioning condition” are essentially in good condition in terms of physical, hydrologic, and water quality characteristics and function. PFC watersheds have generally high integrity in terms of those same characteristics and processes. The streams are in dynamic equilibrium with their watersheds (i.e., they adjust appropriately to natural fluctuations of stream flow and sediment loading), and the watershed systems are fully functional, operating within their potential status. The systems are adjusting to disturbances within their apparent natural ranges of variability; and they are or can be expected to respond to disturbances with a trend toward a good condition within a reasonable time (similar to Class I in FSM 2521.1).</p> <p>Functioning at Risk (FAR): Watersheds that are “functioning at risk” continue to have good physical, hydrologic and water quality integrity; however, present or ongoing adverse disturbances are likely to compromise that integrity if the present adverse disturbances are not modified or corrected. At-risk watersheds will have at least moderate physical, hydrologic, and water quality integrity even though they may have been compromised by disturbances (similar to Class II in FSM 2521.1).</p> <p>Not Properly Functioning (NPF): Watersheds that are “not properly functioning” are operating and adjusting beyond that which can be considered to be in dynamic equilibrium; or the physical, hydrologic, or water quality integrity has been so compromised that restoration efforts may be futile without extraordinary funding and very long recovery time periods. Watershed systems that are NPF are essentially not capable of fully supporting beneficial uses without significant intervention and or extremely long recovery periods. They may contain aquatic resources that are seriously degraded or are not likely to sustain themselves over time (similar to Class III in FSM 2521.1).</p>
<p>Watershed Scale Aquatic Restoration</p>	<p>Restoration, based on problem-identification through watershed analyses, where the emphasis is on treating the entire catchment area rather than focusing on just a local project or site. The intent is to establish a trend, at the watershed scale, toward a desired condition of functions and processes, or toward proper functioning condition within an acceptable range of variability.</p> <p>Site-scale restoration is then used to address or treat specific elements Watershed-scale problems can be defined as anything that interferes with the normal functions and processes that operate in a watershed,</p>

Term	Definition
	from runoff volume and timing of stream flows to slope stability, to canopy conditions in the riparian areas and water quality.
Way-trails	Isolated trail segments with no trailheads, or short trail segments linking existing primary or secondary trails. These trails are rarely maintained or not maintained at all.
Wetlands	Those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do or would support a prevalence of vegetation or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats, and natural ponds.
Wetted Width	The width of the water surface measured at right angles to the direction of flow.
Width-to-Depth Ratio	An index value that indicates the shape of the channel cross-section (ratio of bankfull width/mean bankfull depth).
Wildfire	An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire, including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire-use events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put the fire out.
Wildland Fire	Any nonstructural fire that occurs in an area in which development is essentially nonexistent, except for roads, railroads, power lines, and similar transportation facilities. Structures, if any, are widely scattered.
Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan	<p>A plan for an at-risk community that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Is developed within the context of the collaborative agreements and the guidance established by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council and agreed to by the applicable local government, local fire department, and State agency responsible for forest management, in consultation with interested parties and the Federal land management agencies managing land in the vicinity of the at-risk community; 6. Identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment on federal and non-federal land that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure; and 7. Recommends measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at-risk community.

Term	Definition
Wildland Fire Suppression	An appropriate management response to wildland fire that results in curtailment of fire spread and eliminates all identified threats from the particular fire. All wildland fire suppression activities provide for firefighter and public safety as the highest consideration, but minimize loss of resource values, economic expenditures, and/or the use of critical firefighting resources.
Wildland Fire Use	The application of the appropriate management response to naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in predefined designated areas outlined in fire management plans.
Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	The area directly adjacent to homes and communities.
Winter (Recreation)	December 1 through April 30 every year. This is the period defined for the suitable-use tables for winter motorized and nonmotorized activities.
Winter Range	The area available to and used by wildlife (big game) during the winter season (Dec 1 to April 30). Generally, lands below 4,000 feet in elevation, on south and west aspects, that provides forage and thermal/snow intercept cover.

Appendix A - Plant and Animal Diversity

Providing for diversity of plant and animal communities in the Plan area is a requirement of the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). Towards this end, Plan components were developed to provide ecological conditions that support species and groups of species. The following discussion briefly describes the process used to provide for plant and animal diversity in the proposed Land Management Plan.

The NFMA requires land management plans to provide for diversity of plant and animal communities based on the suitability and capability of the land area while meeting overall multiple-use objectives. The 2005 Planning Rule and associated Forest Service directives specify how to meet this diversity requirement. A hierarchical approach that assesses both ecosystem diversity and species diversity was used in the KIPZ Plan revision process.

The initial focus of the assessment process was on ecosystem diversity, both in addressing the needs of healthy, diverse, and resilient ecosystems within the Plan area, and in determining the extent to which maintaining ecosystem diversity will also maintain populations of plant and animal species within their ranges in the Plan area. An assumption relative to terrestrial animals is that ecosystem diversity will maintain habitat for the persistence of the vast majority of species. This has often been referred to as the “coarse filter” conservation approach (Hunter et al. 1988, Baydeck et al. 1999, Samson 2002, Samson et al. 2003). For the KIPZ, a coarse filter ecosystem diversity evaluation was used to compare existing vegetation communities to a set of reference conditions in order to evaluate changes in disturbance regimes and ecological communities. See the Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER) for a complete description of the process used. Based on the results of this evaluation, Plan components were developed to maintain or move vegetation communities towards a desired level or condition.

A complementary approach (species diversity) to the ecosystem diversity analysis was used for those species for which ecological conditions necessary to sustain populations may not be provided by maintaining ecosystem diversity. In these cases, a species-specific approach was used in the analysis and for the establishment of Plan components, where necessary. The assessment of individual species is often referred to as the “fine-filter” approach (Holthausen 2002, Samson et al. 2003). Forest Service directives associated with the 2005 Planning Rule provide guidelines for conducting species sustainability assessments. The focus in this analysis is on species that are of regional or local conservation concern as indicated by documented threats to populations or habitats. Native terrestrial vertebrates and invertebrates known to occur on land managed by the Forest Service on the Kootenai and Idaho Panhandle National Forests were considered.

Criteria in the Forest Service planning directives were used as the basis for identification of species to include in the species diversity analysis (FSH 1909.12 Chapter 43.2; effective date 1/09/2006).

Specifically species included are:

- Federally listed species are species that are listed by the Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or National Marine Fisheries Service as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.
- Species of concern are species for which management actions may be necessary to prevent listing under the Endangered Species Act.
- Species of interest are species for which management actions may be necessary or desirable to achieve ecological or other multiple-use objectives.

A five-step approach was used in the assessment for species of concern and species of interest:

8. Identification of species.
9. Screening species for further consideration in the planning process.
10. Grouping species where possible and if necessary selecting surrogate species.
11. Determining plan components for species diversity.
12. Evaluation of plan components on species diversity.

Step 1 – Identification of species

Based on the criteria in the Forest Service directives (Chapter 43.22 a, b, c), a list of species was developed for use in the analysis process. Species considered for inclusion on the lists are species of global, state, and local concern, Birds of Conservation Concern, species on the regional (Forest Service Northern Region) sensitive species list, species identified as regional species at risk, and species that were previously delineated as management indicator species (MIS) for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

Step 2 - Screening species for further consideration in the planning process

All species identified in Step 1 were screened to determine whether a species should be considered further in the planning process. Part of the screening process includes the collection of information (including habitat requirements and risks or threats) using criteria in the directives (43.22c and 43.22d). One of the principle factors considered was determining if Plan components for ecosystem diversity was adequate to provide for a particular species needs. If so, no further analysis was considered necessary for those species. The complete screening process, including why or why or not a species was considered further in the planning process, is included in the CER.

Based on the screening process the following list of species was identified for further consideration in the analysis process:

Potential Species of Concern for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Group or Plant Habitat Guild
Amphibians		
Idaho giant salamander	<i>Dicamptodon aterrimus</i>	Aquatic
Birds		
American peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Cliffs
Terrestrial invertebrates (mollusks)		
Bland Oregonian	<i>Cryptomastix mullani blandi</i>	Terrestrial invertebrates/ mollusks
Humped coin	<i>Polygyrella polygyrella</i>	Aquatic
Idaho (Dryland) forestsnail	<i>Allogona ptychophora solida</i>	Terrestrial invertebrates/ mollusks
Kingston Oregonian	<i>Cryptomastix sanburni</i>	Terrestrial invertebrates/ mollusks
Lyre mantleslug	<i>Udosarx lyrata lyrata</i>	Aquatic
Pygmy slug	<i>Kootenaia burkei</i>	Aquatic
Sheathed slug	<i>Zacoleus idahoensis</i>	Aquatic
Smokey taildropper	<i>Prophysaon humile</i>	Aquatic
Thinlip tightcoil	<i>Pristiloma idahoense</i>	Terrestrial invertebrates/ mollusks
Fish		
Westslope cutthroat trout	<i>Salmo clarki lewisi</i>	Aquatic
Burbot (ling)	<i>Lota lota</i>	Aquatic

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Group or Plant Habitat Guild
Plants (Species of Concern continued)		
Upswept moonwort	<i>Botrychium ascendens</i>	Wet forest
Dainty moonwort	<i>Botrychium crenulatum</i>	Wet forest
Western goblin	<i>Botrychium montanum</i>	Wet forest
Peculiar moonwort	<i>Botrychium paradoxum</i>	Wet forest/moist forest
Stalked moonwort	<i>Botrychium pedunculosum</i>	Wet forest
Green bug-on-a-stick	<i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>	Wet forest
Broad-fruit mariposa lily	<i>Calochortus nitidus</i>	Dry forest
Constance's bittercress	<i>Cardamine constancei</i>	Deciduous riparian/moist/Wet forest
Short-spored jelly lichen	<i>Collema curtisporum</i>	Deciduous riparian
Case's fitweed	<i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp. <i>hastata</i>	Wet forest
Britton's dry rock moss	<i>Grimmia brittoniae</i>	Moist forest/dry forest
Howell's gumweed	<i>Grindelia howellii</i>	Dry forest
Old man's beard	<i>Nodobryoria subdivergens</i>	Subalpine
Tapered matchstick	<i>Pilophorus clavatus</i>	Wet forest
Tattered rag lichen	<i>Platismatia herrei</i>	Moist forest/Wet forest
Netted specklebelly	<i>Pseudocyphellaria anomala</i>	Wet forest
Leiberg's tauschia	<i>Tauschia tenuissima</i>	Dry/moist forest
Whiteworm lichen	<i>Thamnolia subuliformis</i>	Subalpine
Large spore ulota moss	<i>Ulota megalospora</i>	Wet forest
Idaho barren strawberry	<i>Waldsteinia idahoensis</i>	Moist forests/Wet forest

Potential Species of Interest for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Group or Plant Habitat Guild
Amphibians		
Coeur d'Alene salamander	<i>Plethodon idahoensis</i>	Aquatic
Western (boreal) toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>	Aquatic
Mammals		
California myotis	<i>Myotis californicus</i>	Bat
Fisher	<i>Martes pennanti</i>	Aquatic
Fringed myotis	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	Bat
North American Wolverine	<i>Gulo gulo luscus</i>	Subalpine
Northern bog lemming	<i>Synaptomys borealis</i>	Aquatic
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Bat
Elk	<i>Cervus elaphus nelsoni</i>	Big game
Mountain goat	<i>Oreamos americanus</i>	Big game
Birds		
Black swift	<i>Cypseloides niger</i>	Aquatic
Black-backed woodpecker	<i>Picooides arcticus</i>	Burned forest/snags
Boreal owl	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Snags
Common loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Aquatic
Flammulated owl	<i>Otus flammeolus</i>	Snags
Harlequin duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Aquatic
Lewis's woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Burned forest/snags
Northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Warm/dry, warm/moist
Pygmy nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>	Snags

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Group or Plant Habitat Guild
Birds (Species of Interest continued)		
Red-naped sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus nuchalis</i>	Snags
Three-toed woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>	Burned forest/snags
Williamson's sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i>	Snags
White-headed woodpecker	<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>	Snags
Fish		
Interior redband trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss gairdneri</i>	Aquatic
Aquatic Invertebrates		
Western pearlshell mussel	<i>Margaritifera falcata</i>	Aquatic
Terrestrial Invertebrates - Mollusks		
Fir pinwheel	<i>Radiodiscus abietum</i>	Aquatic
Pale jumping slug	<i>Hemphillia camelus</i>	Aquatic
Plants		
Bog rosemary	<i>Andromeda polifolia</i>	Peatland
Maidenhair spleenwort	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i> ssp. <i>trichomanes</i>	Rock seeps in moist/wet forest
Rush aster	<i>Symphyotrichum boreale</i> (<i>Aster junciformis</i>)	Peatland
Bourgeau's milkvetch	<i>Astragalus bourgovii</i>	Subalpine
Dwarf birch	<i>Betula pumila</i> v. <i>glandulifera</i>	Peatland/deciduous riparian
Deerfern	<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Wet forest/moist forest
Triangle moonwort	<i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i>	Wet forest/moist forest
Moonwort	<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Wet forest
Michigan moonwort	<i>Botrychium "michiganense"</i>	Mesic meadows/moist forest
Mingan moonwort	<i>Botrychium minganense</i>	Wet forest/moist forest
Northwestern moonwort	<i>Botrychium pinnatum</i>	Wet forest/moist forest
Least moonwort	<i>Botrychium simplex</i>	Wet forest/moist forest
Buxbaum's sedge	<i>Carex buxbaumii</i>	Peatland Wet forest/moist forest
California sedge	<i>Carex californica</i>	Subalpine
String-root sedge	<i>Carex chordorrhiza</i>	Peatland
Bristly sedge	<i>Carex comosa</i>	Peatland
Yellow sedge	<i>Carex flava</i>	Peatland
Henderson's sedge	<i>Carex hendersonii</i>	Moist/wet forest
Bristle-stalked sedge	<i>Carex leptalea</i>	Peatland
Pale sedge	<i>Carex livida</i>	Peatland
Poor sedge	<i>Carex magellanica</i> ssp. <i>irrigua</i> (<i>C. paupercula</i>)	Peatland
Phantom orchid	<i>Cephalanthera austiniiae</i> (<i>Eburophyton austiniiae</i>)	Moist/wet forest
Bog birch lichen	<i>Cetraria sepincola</i>	Peatland
Bulb-bearing water hemlock	<i>Cicuta bulbifera</i>	Aquatic/peatland
Toy soldiers	<i>Cladonia bellidiflora</i>	Wet forest
Transcending reindeer lichen	<i>Cladonia transcendens</i>	Wet forest
Clustered lady's slipper	<i>Cypripedium fasciculatum</i>	Moist forest/dry forest
Yellow Lady's-slipper	<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i>	Peatland/deciduous riparian
Sitka clubmoss	<i>Diphasiastrum sitchense</i>	Subalpine/cold forest
White-flowered shooting star	<i>Dodecatheon dentatum</i>	Wet forest
Spoon-leaved sundew	<i>Drosera intermedia</i>	Peatland

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Group or Plant Habitat Guild
Plants (Species of Interest continued)		
Crested shield fern	<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	Peatland
Swamp willow-weed	<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Peatland
Green-keeled cotton grass	<i>Eriophorum viridicarinatum</i>	Peatland
Creeping snowberry	<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Wet forest/Peatland
Large Canadian St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum majus</i>	Peatland
Blue flag iris	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Peatland
Tweedy's ivesia	<i>Ivesia tweedyi</i>	Subalpine
Hall's lung wort	<i>Lobaria hallii</i>	Deciduous riparian
Many-fruit false-loosestrife	<i>Ludwigia polycarpa</i>	Peatland/aquatic
Northern bog clubmoss	<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>	Peatland
Ground pine	<i>Lycopodium dendroideum</i>	Wet/moist/cold forest/deciduous riparian
Beadruby	<i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Peatland
Meesia	<i>Meesia longiseta</i>	Peatland
Chickweed monkeyflower	<i>Mimulus alsinoides</i>	Rock cliffs/seeps in wet/moist /dry forest
Bank monkeyflower	<i>Mimulus clivicola</i>	Dry forest
Marsh muhly	<i>Muhlenbergia glomerata</i>	Peatland
Pine broomrape	<i>Orobanche pinorum</i>	Dry forest
Trillium-leaved wood-sorrel	<i>Oxalis trilliifolia</i>	Wet forest
Arrowleaf coltsfoot	<i>Petasites sagittatus</i>	Peatland
Northern beechfern	<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>	Wet forest
Devil's matchstick lichen	<i>Pilophorus acicularis</i>	Wet forest
Whitebark pine	<i>Pinus albicaulis</i>	Subalpine
Round-leaved orchid	<i>Platanthera orbiculata</i>	Moist forest/Wet forest
Braun's holly fern	<i>Polystichum braunii</i>	Wet forest
Naked mniium	<i>Rhizomnium nudum</i>	Wet forest
White beakrush	<i>Rhynchospora alba</i>	Peatland
Red-flowered current	<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Moist forest
Sitka mistmaiden	<i>Romanzoffia sitchensis</i>	Subalpine
Salmonberry	<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	Wet forest
Hoary willow	<i>Salix candida</i>	Peatland/deciduous riparian
Bog willow	<i>Salix pedicellaris</i>	Peatland
Pod grass	<i>Scheuchzeria palustris</i>	Peatland
Water clubrush	<i>Schoenoplectus subterminalis</i> (<i>Scirpus subterminalis</i>)	Aquatic
Lance-leaved sedum	<i>Sedum rupicola</i>	Subalpine
Christmas tree lichen	<i>Sphaerophorus globosus</i>	Wet forest
Mendocine peatmoss	<i>Sphagnum mendocinum</i>	Peatland
Krushea	<i>Streptopus streptopoides</i>	Wet forest/cold forest
Short-styled sticky Tofieldia	<i>Triantha occidentalis</i>	Peatland
Hudson's bay bulrush	<i>Trichophorum alpinum</i> (<i>Scirpus hudsonianus</i>)	Peatland
Northern starflower	<i>Trientalis europaea</i> (<i>T. arctica</i>)	Peatland
Western starflower	<i>Trientalis latifolia</i>	Deciduous riparian/moist/ Wet forest
Bog cranberry	<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>	Peatland
Wild celery	<i>Vallisneria americana</i>	Aquatic
Selkirk's violet	<i>Viola selkirkii</i>	Wet forest

Step 3 - Grouping species where possible and if necessary selecting surrogate species

While managing species habitats and populations using a species-by-species approach has intuitive ecological merit, the sheer number of species often makes such an approach untenable. In many cases, the ecological understanding and resources needed to manage all species on an individual basis are not available. Tremendous efficiencies can be gained from managing groups of species. For these reasons, the Forest Service planning directives encourage the use of groups and “surrogate species” (FSH 1909.12 Chapter 43.24).

Using a hierarchical approach, species of concern and species of interest on the above lists were grouped, where possible, based on species habitat needs, and identified risks or threats. Species groups were reviewed to determine the need for a surrogate species. No surrogate species were identified for the IPNF. The KIPZ vegetation matrix, the Regional Diversity Matrix, and the Interior Columbia Basin (Wisdom et al. 2000) were reviewed during the process of grouping wildlife species. Plant species of concern and species of interest were placed into habitat guilds established for the major habitat types on the forest(s). See above table for species groups and habitat guilds. A complete description of habitat guilds and associated species is included in the Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER).

Step 4 - Determining Plan components for species diversity

Where necessary, Plan components were developed for each species group or individual species identified as species of concern or species of interest. These components were developed to address specific habitat needs or to reduce risks of other negative outcomes and threats that have not been fully addressed in the provisions for ecosystem diversity. The main components that were developed include: Plan components for snags and down wood; protection of documented locations of known occurrences and habitats where there is a high probability of a species occurring; and reducing human-caused disturbances during critical life stages (e.g., nesting, rearing, denning, winter).

Step 5 - Evaluation of Plan components on species diversity

The combination of plan components for ecosystem diversity and components for species diversity have been developed to provide appropriate ecological conditions for all species that have been identified as federally listed species, species of concern and species of interest.

Appendix B - Forestwide Suitability

Timber

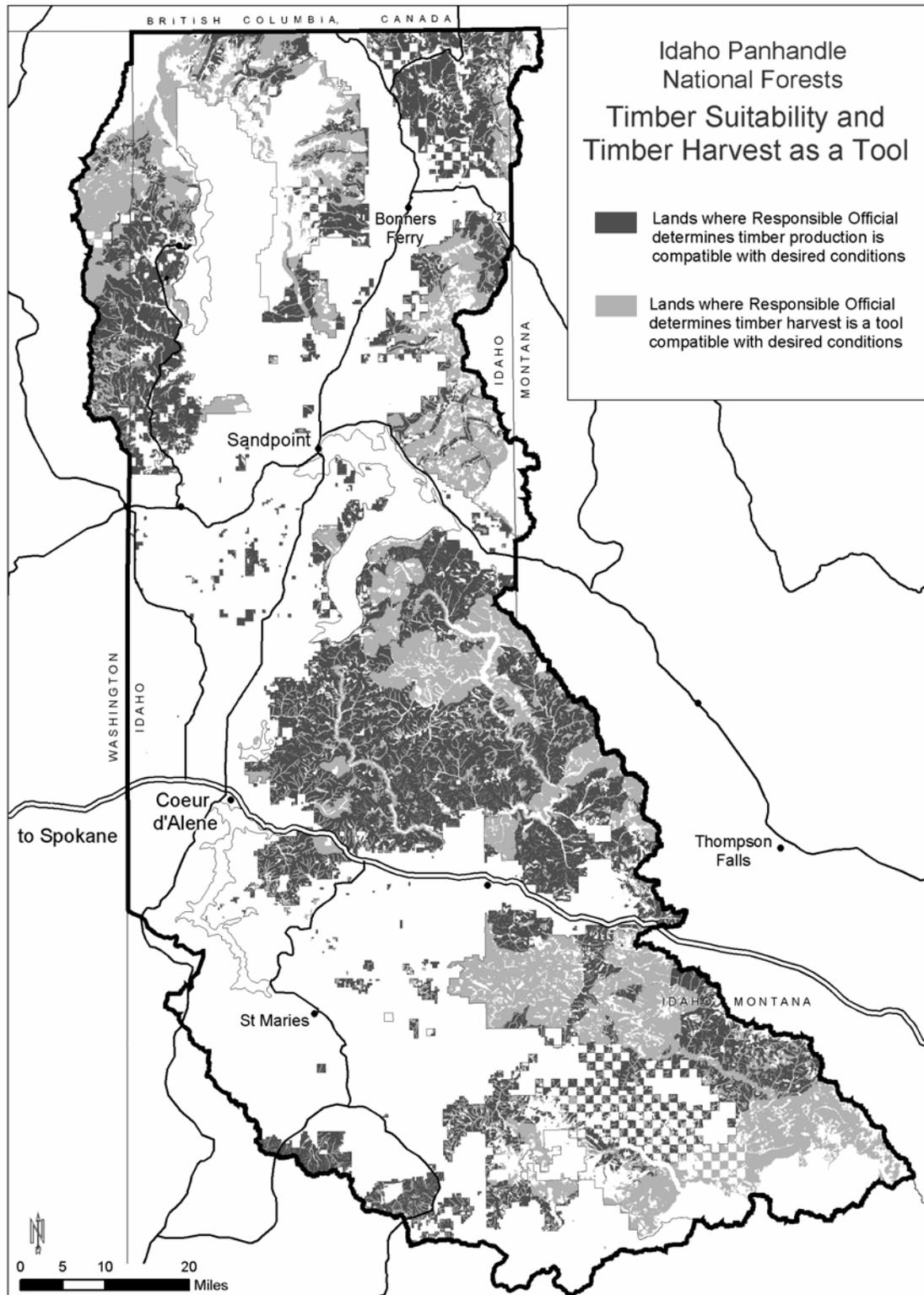


Figure B-1. Areas suitable for timber harvest

Livestock Grazing

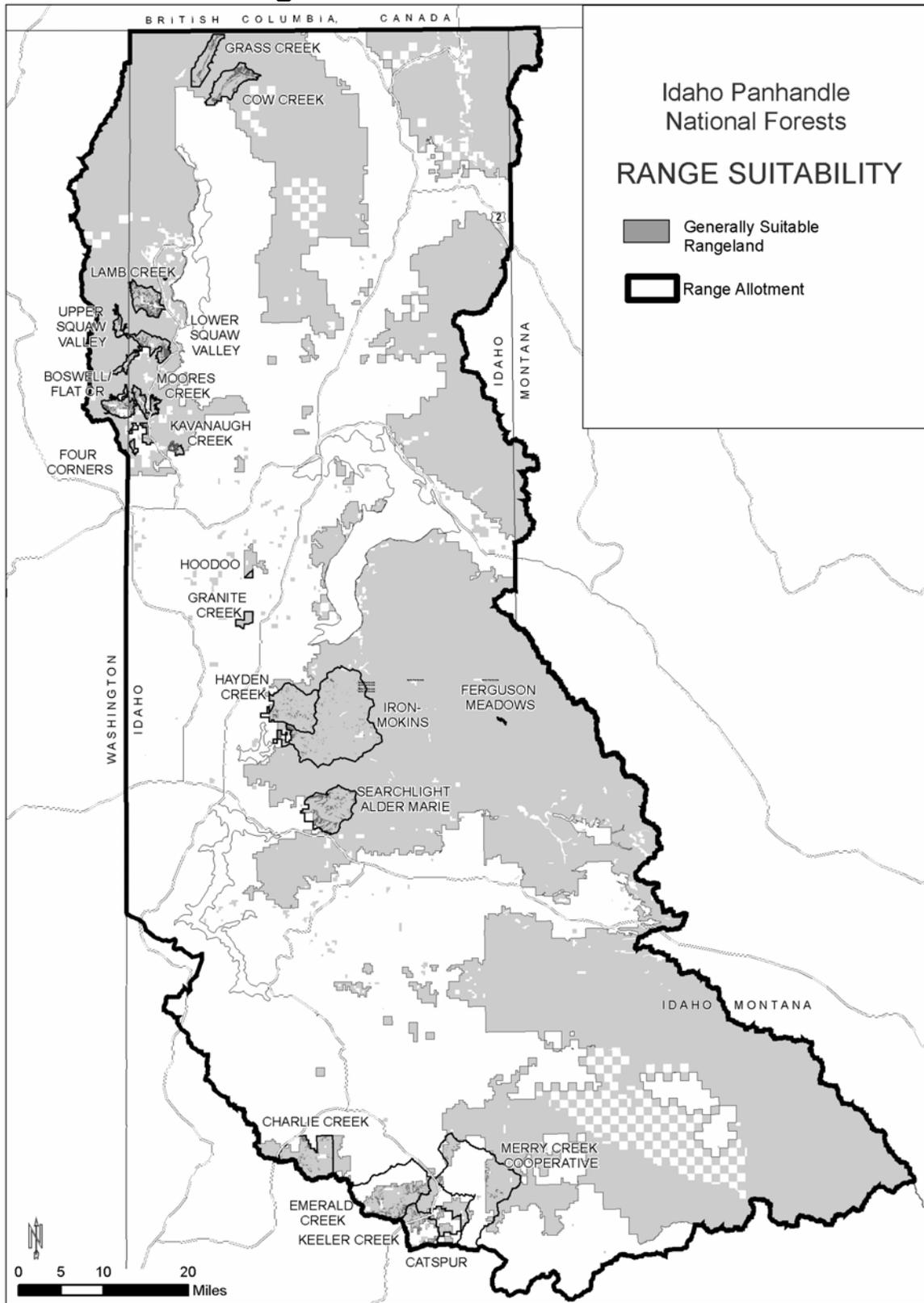


Figure B-2. Areas suitable for livestock grazing

Riparian Conservation Areas

Riparian conservation areas (see glossary for categories) are generally suitable for activities that improve, restore, or maintain aquatic and riparian ecosystems desired conditions (see “[Riparian Area Guidelines](#)” on page 3-10 in Chapter 3).

Motorized Recreation

Current travel management restrictions will remain in place throughout the Forest until site-specific travel management plans are complete. See “[Forestwide Suitability](#)” discussion on page 2-6 in Chapter 2 for more information.

Utility Corridors and Communication Sites

Table B-1 lists designated utility corridors and Table B-2 lists designated communication sites in the IPNF. Figure B-3 displays the designated utility corridors and communication sites.

Table B-1. Designated utility corridors in the IPNF

Corridor Name	Authorized User
Albeni Falls – Sand Creek No. 1	BPA
Albeni Falls – Sand Creek No. 2	BPA
Albeni Falls - Rathdrum	Avista
Albeni Falls (BPA) – Rathdrum TWWP) No. 1	BPA
Athol Tap to Pine Stree – Rathdrum No. 1	BPA
Bell – Lancaster No. 1	BPA
Benewah – Pine Creek	Avista
Bonnors Ferry – Troy No. 1	BPA
Bronx - Cabinet	Avista
Burke A and B	Avista
Cabinet – Rathdrum	Avista
Dworshak – Taft No. 1	BPA
Lancaster – Noxon No.1	BPA
Pine Creek – Rathdrum	Avista
Priest River Tap to Albeni Falls – Sand Creek No. 1bpa	BPA
Sacheen – Albeni Falls No. 1	BPA
Sand Creek – Bonnors Ferry No. 1 & 2	BPA
Taft – Bell No. 1	BPA
Pacific Gas	Pacific Gas
Yellowstone	Yellowstone

Note : Includes corridors that only partially cross NFS lands.

Table B-2. Designated communication sites in the IPNF

Communication Site Name	Location (District)	Designated For	Restrictions
Bear Mountain	Sandpoint	Non-broadcast	
Binarch Mountain	Priest Lake	Non-broadcast	
Black Mountain	Sandpoint	Broadcast	
Bussard Mountain	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Copper Mountain	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Dawson Ridge	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Dunn Peak	St. Joe	Broadcast	
East Hope	Sandpoint	Non-broadcast	
Faset Peak	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Hall Mountain	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Hidden Lake	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Hogue Mountain	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Horton Ridge	Sandpoint	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Huckleberry Mountain	St. Joe	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Humboldt Gulch	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Killarney Mountain	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Kings Pt	Coeur d'Alene	Broadcast	
Lakeview Mountain	Priest Lake	Broadcast	
Line Creek	St. Joe	Non-broadcast	
Little Blacktail Mtn	Sandpoint	Non-broadcast	
Little Guard Peak	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Lookout	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Lunch Peak	Sandpoint	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Marks Butte	St. Joe	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Monument Mountain	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Mosquito Ridge	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Mount Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Myrtle Creek	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Saddle Mountain	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Shoshone Creek	Coeur d'Alene	Non-broadcast	
Simmons Ridge	St. Joe	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
Smith Creek	Bonniers Ferry	Non-broadcast	
Snow Peak	St. Joe	Non-broadcast	Gov't Use Only
South Butte	St. Joe	Non-broadcast	
West Canfield Butte	Coeur d'Alene	Broadcast	

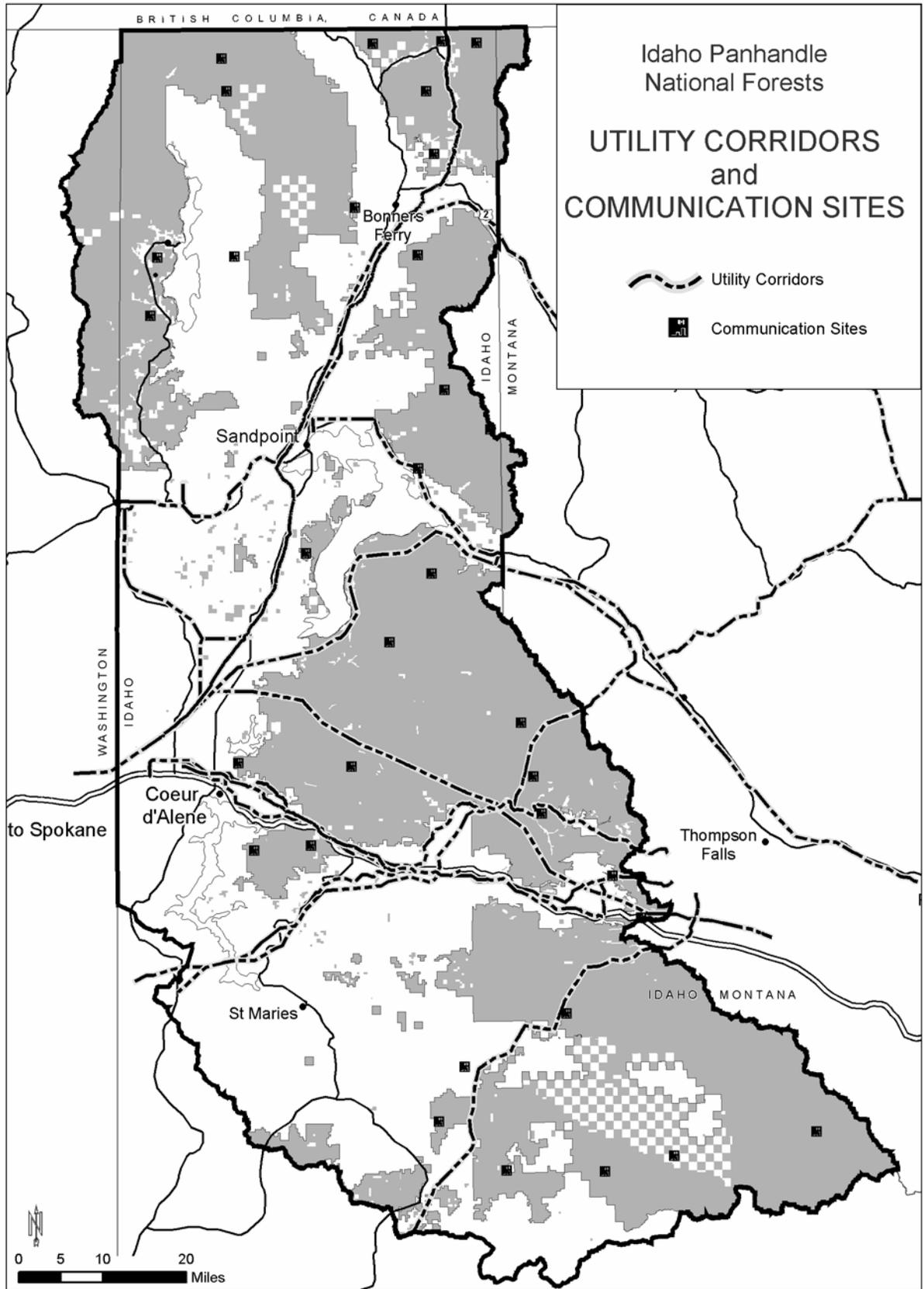


Figure B-3. Utility corridors and communication sites on the IPNF

Minerals

Table B-3. Lands withdrawn from mineral entry on the North Zone (Bonners Ferry, Priest Lake and Sandpoint Ranger Districts) in the IPNF

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Administrative Site	T37N R34W Sec 1-4	25.44
Albeni Falls Project	T53N R1W Sec 3,4,7-9; T53N R2W Sec 10-12; T54N R1W Sec 3,10,15,27,30; T54N R1W Sec 34; T54N R2W Sec 2,14,24; T55N R1E Sec 1,7-12,18; T55N R1W Sec 4,5,7,8,13,14,18,19,23,26,34,35; T55N R2E Sec 6,8; T55N R2W Sec 24-26,35; T56N R1E Sec 11,12,19,20,30; T56N R1W Sec 22,26-28,33	4376.54
Beaver Campground	T57N R3E Sec 29	5
Beaver Creek R.S.	T62N R4W Sec 9	64
Big Meadow R.S.	T59N R5W Sec 30	40.58
Bismark Meadow R.S.	T61N R5W Sec 22	40
Boswell Ranger Station	T58N R5W Sec 30	20
Bottle Lake	T62N R4W Sec 20	80
Bottle Lake Rna	T62N R4W Sec 8,9,20	220
Boundary Hydropower	T65N R2W Sec 9,10,15-18, T65N R3W Sec 13	*
Bridgeview	T55N R2W Sec 10	160
Brush Lake	T64N R1E Sec 21,22	66.4
Chipmunk Rapids Nrt	T59N R4W Sec 19,30,31; T59N R5W Sec 24,25,35,36	*
Copper Creek Campground	T65N R2E Sec 14	20
Dickensheet Bridge	T59N R4W Sec 19,20	19.53
East Fork Lightning Cr.	T57N R3E Sec 32	30
Ethel Ranger Station	T54 N R1W Sec 10	135.2
Falls Ranger Station	T57N R5W Sec 15,22	140
Forks Of Granite	T62N R5W Sec 30	141.82
Garfield Bay	T56N R1W Sec 27,28	37.18
Gorge Ranger Station	T54 N R3E Sec 4	74.38
Granite Creek	T55N R1E Sec 29,30	25
Granite Ranger Station	T55N R1W Sec 25,26	40
Hanna Flats Nrt	T60N R5W Sec 10	*
Huckleberry Campground	T57N R2E Sec 7	10
Huff Lake Camp-Picnic	T37N R45E Sec 2	49.5
Hughes Meadows Adm Site	T64N R5W Sec 29,32	200
Hughes Meadows Rgr Stn	T64N R5W Sec 28,32	120
Idaho Natl Energy	T64N R2W Sec 6; T64N R3W Sec 1; T65N R2W Sec 26,27,31-33	*
International Boundary	T65N R1E Sec 7-12; T65N R1W Sec 12; T65N R2E Sec 7-12; T65N R2W Sec 7-10; T65N R3E Sec 7-10; T65N R3W Sec 7-12; T65N R4W Sec 7-12; T65N R5W Sec 7-12	275.32
Lakeshore Nrt	T61N R4W Sec 4,5,8,9; T62N R4W Sec 16,21,28,29,32	*

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Lamb Creek R.S.	T60N R5W Sec 22	90
Lightning Creek	T56N R3E Sec 5,6,8; T57N R2E Sec 2,11,13,14,24; T57N R3E Sec 19,29,30,32; T58N R2E Sec 26,35	*
Meadow Creek Campground	T63N R2E Sec 12,13	80
Mirror Lake	T56N R1W Sec 31	45.85
Moore Creek Natural Area	T58N R5W Sec 28	40
Perkins Lake	T62N R3E Sec 4,5	86.7
Pettit Lake Camp Site	T36N R45E Sec 10	160
Priest Lake	T59N R4W Sec 5; T60N R4W Sec 3,5-8, 16,17,19,20,28-30,32; T60N R5W Sec 1,12,13,24; T61N R4W Sec 4,5,8,9,17,19,20,29,30-32; T62N R4W Sec 4,9,10,16,21,28,29,32; T63N R4W Sec 19,29,30,32,33; T63N R5W Sec 24	712.87
Priest Lake R.S.	T60N R5W Sec 2,11	100
Priest River	T58N R3W Sec 17-21,28-30; T58N R4W Sec 23-27,33,34	6919.19
Priest River Road	T58N R5W Sec 2,3,10,15; T59N R4W Sec 6,7,18,19; T59N R5W Sec 12,13,24-26,34,35; T60N R4W Sec 31; T60N R5W Sec 2,3,11,14,23,26; T61N R5W Sec 14,23,26,27,34	566.82
Rattle Creek	T57N R2E Sec 2	25
Reeder Creek R.S.	T61N R4W Sec 20	39.2
Reeder Lake	T61N R5W Sec 10, 16	120
Robinson Lake Campground	T65N R2E Sec 21	24.54
Rock Creek	T64N R5W Sec 10	160
Round Prairie R.S.	T65N R2E Sec 20, 29	80
Selkirk Hydro	T62N R1W Sec 14	*
Snyder Ranger Station	T64N R2E Sec 23	80
Stagger Inn	T38N R45E Sec 26	160
Tepee Creek Rna	T62N R4W Sec 16, 17	1128.2
Tepee Ranger Station	T61N R5W Sec 11	10
Trestle Creek R.S.	T57N R1E Sec 12	120
Upper American Falls	T65N R5W Sec 11-13	410
Upper Priest Lake	T63N R4W Sec 30-32; T63N R5W Sec 23-26, 35; T63N R5W Sec T36	3016.64
Village Of Bonners Ferry	T62N R2E Sec 2	1.55
Washington Water Power	T53 N R1W Sec 2,3,9,10,16-18; T53 N R2W Sec 13,23,24; T54 N R1W Sec 2,10,14,23,26,35; T55N R1E Sec 13, 21-24, 28-30; T55N R1W Sec 25,26,35; T55N R2E Sec 8,17,18,26	243.34
Data Unavailable	T55N R2E Sec 8,15; T56N R1W Sec 32; T61N R3E Sec 22; T65N R2W Sec 34	392.51

Source: Bureau of Land Management

* = Data Not Available

Table B-4. Lands withdrawn from mineral entry on the Central Zone (Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District) in the IPNF

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Avery Creek Campground	T50N R4E Sec 10,15	43.4
Beauty Bay Camp	T49N R3W Sec 12	41.39
Beauty Bay Campground	T49N R3W Sec 12	21.49
Beauty Bay Ranger Station	T49N R3W Sec 12	21.49
Berlin Flats Campground	T51N R4E Sec 4,9	50
Birds Eye Ranger Station	T52N R3E Sec 6,35,36	115.02
Bumblebee Campground	T50N R1E Sec 36	97.48
Bunko Ranger Station	T53N R2W Sec 28	160
Cedars Campground	T47N R3E Sec 4	20
Deception Creek	T50N R1W Sec 5,6; T51N R1W Sec 19,20,28-33; T51N R2W Sec 25,26,36	4633.38
Devils Elbow Campground	T51N R3E Sec 14	64.8
Fourth Of July Campground	T49N R1W Sec 21	20
Freezeout Campground	T54N R1E Sec 15	10
Grizzly	T50N R3E Sec 22	57.3
Home Bldg M And D Co.	T50N R2W Sec 1,2,10,11	621.47
Honeysuckle Campground	T51N R1W Sec 28	40
Iron Creek Campground	T52N R1W Sec 21	32.44
Jordan Creek Campground	T53N R3E Sec 17	20
Lake Elsie-French Lake Recreation Area	T47N R3E Sec 12,13; T47N R4E Sec 18	121.1
Longpool Campground	T51N R3E Sec 3,10	64.62
Lookout Pass Ski Area	T47N R6E Sec 4; T48N R6E Sec 32,33	236.8
Magee Ranger Station	T52N R2E Sec 19	80
Mokins Bay Camp	T51N R3W Sec 11	62.3
Montgomery Creek Townsite	T49N R3E Sec 33,34	80
Mt. Coeur D'alene Campground	T49N R3W Sec 14	40
Mullen Park Campground	T49N R1W Sec 6	120.11
Nicholas Creek Campground	T51N R1W Sec 6	40
Psr No. 338	T50N R4E Sec 5,6,7,9	460.32
Psr No. 475	T48N R2W Sec 3	20
Sage Creek Campground	T52N R2W Sec 10	10
Senator Creek Campground	T52N R3E Sec 6,7	35.03
Settler's Grove Of Ancient Cedars	T50N R5E Sec 4; T51N R5E Sec 33,34	183.47
Shoshone Creek Administrative Site	T50N R4E Sec 5,8	83.4
Shoshone Park Campground	T48N R6E Sec 32	10
Sissons Campground	T51N R3E Sec 25; T51N R4E Sec 30	45.28
Tom Lavin Creek Campground	T52N R1W Sec 17	35

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Washington Water Power	T48N R5E Sec 11; T49N R1W Sec 6,7,21; T49N R2W Sec 1,22,23; T49N R2E Sec 2,10,11,15; T50N R3E Sec 13,24,26-32; T50N R4E Sec 6,7,18; T51N R4E Sec 2-4,9,16,17,20,29-31,35,36; T52N R5E Sec 29,31,32; T48N R5E Sec 11; T49N R3E Sec 26,35; T49N R5E Sec 1,2,11; T49N R6E Sec 6; T47N R5E Sec 1,24; T49N R4E Sec 2,10,11,27,35,36; T49N R5E Sec 15,22,27; T50N R6E Sec 19,30,31	495.13

Source: Bureau of Land Management
 * = Data Not Available

Table B-5. Lands withdrawn from mineral entry on the South Zone (St. Joe Ranger District) in the IPNF

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Arid Peak Lookout	T46N R5E Sec 1	5
Avery Landing	T45N R5E Sec 14	62
Bacon Lake	T42N R9E Sec 24	75
Bad Bear Campground	T43N R8E Sec 22	10
Baldy Mountain Lookout	T43N R2W Sec 34	5
Bean Creek Campground	T42N R9E Sec 12	20
Bear Administrative Site	T43N R3W Sec 14	160
Bearskull Administrative Site	T43N R6E Sec 2	9.73
Beaver Creek Campground	T43N R9E Sec 8	40
Big Creek Campground	T46N R3E Sec 30	27.5
Big Dick Creek Picnic Area	T46N R6E Sec 18	9
Big Stick	T43N R4W Sec 19	120
Bird Creek Campground	T45N R7E Sec 5; T45N R6E Sec 24	53.15
Bluff Creek Timber Access	T44N R8E Sec 7,18,19	369
Boehls Forks Campground	T42N R5E Sec 15	20
Bottle Creek Campground	T45N R7E Sec 20	40
Broken Leg Administrative Site	T42N R9E Sec 10	70
Bullion Creek Organization Camp	T47N R5E Sec 36	70
Bullion Mining Company	T47N R6E Sec 21	15
Burton Creek Administrative Site	T45N R4E Sec 12	133
California Creek Campground	T43N R10E Sec 26	3
Canton Ranger Station	T45N R6E Sec 21	35.45
Canyon Creek	T42N R6E Sec 12	20
Cave Rock Campground	T43N R9E Sec 17	10
Cedar Prospect	T46N R4E Sec 12-14	60
Chickadee	T42N R6E Sec 17	20
Cliff Creek Campground	T46N R6E Sec 10	32
Coddington Campground	T45N R6E Sec 20	12.63
Conrad Campground Expansion	T44N R8E Sec 14	15
Conrad Crossing Campground	T44N R8E Sec 14	20
Conrad Peak Lookout	T44N R8E Sec 16	5

Appendix B – Forestwide Suitability

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Craddock Ridge Campground	T45N R7E Sec 34	12
Craig Lake	T42N R7E Sec 28,33	60
Devils Lake	T42N R6E Sec 25	60
Double Cabin Administrative Site	T46N R6E Sec 7	40
Dunn Peak Lookout	T46N R4E Sec 36	5
Eagle Creek Campground	T45N R7E Sec 27	12.71
East Fork Emerald Creek	T42N R1W Sec 1,10-15,23,24	827.5
Elk Prairie Administrative Site	T42N R8E Sec 3,4	160
Entente Creek Campground	T45N R8E Sec 19	25
Fawn Lake	T42N R7E Sec 25	80
Fly Flat	T44N R8E Sec 36	2.5
Fly Flat Campground	T44N R8E Sec 36	20
Forage Lake	T42N R9E Sec 13	65
Gold Center Road	T42N R2E Sec 11	5.67
Gold Creek	T44N R8E Sec 23,24	40
Gold Creek Campground	T44N R8E Sec 23	10
Halfway Campground	T45N R7E Sec 21,28	70.5
Halo Lake Scenic And Recreation Area	T42N R9E Sec 13,24; T42N R10E Sec 18,19	69.1
Heart Lake	T42N R7E Sec 33	145
Heller Creek Campground	T43N R10E Sec 17,20	32.5
Hemlock Springs Campground	T42N R4E Sec 5,6	167.99
Hero And Gnat Lake	T42N R7E Sec 21,28	105
Indian Creek Campground	T43N R9E Sec 7	20
Jug Creek Campground	T42N R5E Sec 3	120
Larkins Lake	T42N R7E Sec 29	75
Lentz Campground	T44N R8E Sec 14	20
Lentz-Conrad Campground	T44N R8E Sec 14	25
Little North Fork Campground	T43N R5E Sec 17	40
Long Liz Campground	T46N R6E Sec 7	10
Lookout Mountain Lookout	T43N R4E Sec 9	2.5
Lucky Swede Picnic Area	T46N R6E Sec 6	22
Mammoth Springs Campground	T43N R7E Sec 6	5
Margarite Administrative Site	T43N R5E Sec 14	80
Mastodon Mountain Lookout	T46N R4E Sec 4,5	10
Middle Quartz Creek Campground	T45N R8E Sec 17	85
Midget Creek Campground	T44N R9E Sec 31	22
Montana Creek Campground	T43N R6E Sec 27	10
Mozier Creek Recreation Area	T47N R6E Sec 31	13
Mudd Lake	T42N R7E Sec 29	47.5
Northbound Lake	T42N R7E Sec 34	70
Nugget Administrative Site	T45N R7E Sec 27	71.76
Ohadi Administrative Site	T42N R2W Sec 24	40
Pack Saddle Campground	T45N R6E Sec 20	30.7
Pearson Mining Company	T46N R6E Sec 6; T47N R6E Sec 31	104.55
Prospector Creek Campground	T45N R7E Sec 19,20	41.7

Name	Township (T), Range (R), Section (Sec.)	Acres
Railroad Creek Picnic Area	T47N R5E Sec 28	40
Red Ives Administrative Site	T43N R9E Sec 19,20,29-32	880
Roundtop Administrative Site	T44N R5E Sec 32	60
Ruby Creek Campground	T42N R9E Sec 18	10
Rye Creek Campground	T46N R5E Sec 13	30
Simmons Creek Campground	T44N R8E Sec 24	20
Simmons Lookout	T43N R9E Sec 12	2.5
Skyland Lake	T42N R7E Sec 25,26,35,36	95
Slate Creek Administrative Site	T47N R4E Sec 26; T46N R4E Sec 12	100
Slate Horseshoe Organization Site	T47N R4E Sec 25	110
Snow Peak Lookout	T43N R7E Sec 30	10
Spruce Tree Campground	T43N R9E Sec 29	40
Squaw-Stetson Creek Campground	T46N R5E Sec 25,36	80
St. Joe Administrative Site	T46N R6E Sec 4	120
St. Joe Lake Campground	T42N R11E Sec 4	84
St. Joe River	T42N R9E Sec 1,3,5,7-12,16-18; T43N R9E Sec 31,36; T43N R10E Sec 15,21,22,26,35	1784.1
St. Joe Wild River	T42N R9E Sec 1-3,5-12,15-18; T42N R10E Sec 1,6,12; T42N R11E Sec 4-7; T43N R9E Sec 25,29,31,32,36; T43N R10E Sec 16,17,19-22,25-31,35,36; T43N R11E Sec 32,33	8196.6
Surveyors Ridge Lookout	T42N R7E Sec 11,12	10
Terminal Administrative Site	T47N R4E Sec 20	120
Tin Can Hill Campground	T45N R7E Sec 19	36.74
Tourist Creek Campground	T45N R6E Sec 14,22,23	37.28
Triangle Point Campground	T46N R6E Sec 5	20
Turner Campground	T45N R6E Sec 23	28.83
Twin Creek Administrative Site	T43N R5E Sec 12	320
Upper Fishhook	T44N R5E Sec 32	320
Upper St. Joe River	T42N R10E Sec 1,4-7,12; T43N R9E Sec 28,29; T43N R10E Sec 20,29,30,36	966.77
Wahoo Creek Campground	T43N R9E Sec 6	50
West Fork Merry Creek Road	T43N R2E Sec 33	0.47
Willow Creek Vista Point	T43N R3W Sec 13	8.7
Wolf Administrative Site	T43N R3W Sec 8	80
Yankee Bar Campground	T43N R10E Sec 22,27	10

Source: Bureau of Land Management
 * = Data Not Available