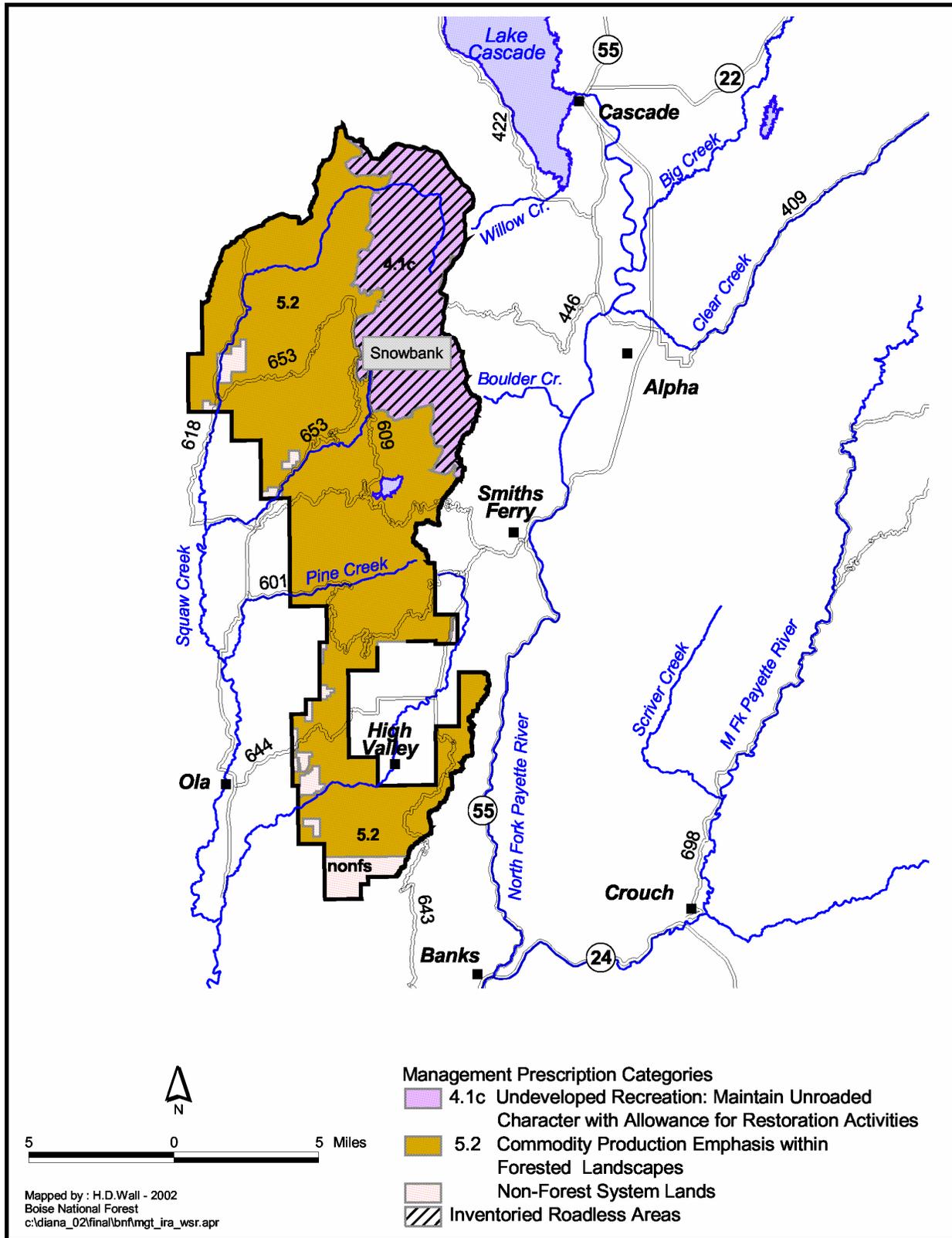


Management Area 16 - Sagehen Reservoir Location Map



Management Area 16 Sage Hen Reservoir

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 16 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	23
5.2 – Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	77

General Location and Description - Management Area 16 is comprised of lands administered by the Boise National Forest in the Payette River drainage, west of State Highway 55 from Banks to Smiths Ferry (see map, opposite page). The area lies in Valley, Gem, and Washington Counties, and is part of the Emmett Ranger District. The management area is an estimated 90,300 acres, of which 95 percent are managed by the Forest Service, 3 percent are private lands, and 2 percent are State of Idaho lands. The area is bordered by the Payette National Forest to the north, the Boise National Forest to the northeast, and by a mix of private, State, and federal lands elsewhere. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been timber management, dispersed and developed recreation, and livestock grazing.

Access - The main access to the area is by FDR 618 up Squaw Creek, and FDR 626 from Smiths Ferry to Sage Hen Reservoir. Both of these roads are well maintained and gravel-surfaced. The density of classified roads in the management area is an estimated 3.1 miles per square mile, although the northern portion of the area is inventoried as roadless. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0.5 and 6.0 miles per square mile. A good network of trails provides access to the roadless portion of the area.

Special Features - Prominent landmarks in this area include Tripod Peak and Snowbank Mountain Lookouts, and Sage Hen Reservoir. Sage Hen Reservoir is a popular recreation destination with five developed campgrounds. A portion of the Snowbank Inventoried Roadless Area comprises an estimated 22 percent of Management Area 16.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-14 and in portions of Gem and Valley Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. There is an ambient air monitor located within the Airshed in Garden Valley to obtain current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. The closest Class I areas are the Sawtooth, Hells Canyon, and Eagle Cap Wildernesses. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for these areas.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends in both counties improved for PM 10, while PM 2.5 emissions remained constant. The most common source of particulate matter in the counties was fugitive dust from unpaved roads, wildfire, and prescribed fire. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute to particulate matter emissions, although the amount of agricultural-related burning was very low within Gem and Valley Counties (600 to 1,000 acres). There were no point sources within Valley County. In Gem County (near Emmett) point sources may have contributed to particulate matter emissions.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 4,000 feet at the Forest boundary to 8,322 feet atop Snowbank Mountain. Management Area 16 falls within portions of multiple subsections, including High Valley, Long Valley Basin, Weiser Valley and Foothills, and Council Mountain Uplands. The main geomorphic landforms associated with these subsections are structurally controlled basalt lands, frost-churned uplands and mountain slopes, and fluvial lands. The dominant slope range is 35 to 65 percent in the fluvial lands, 30 to 50 percent in the structurally controlled basalt lands, and 15 to 40 percent in the frost-churned uplands. The surface geology is primarily Idaho batholith granitics in the east and volcanic basalts in the west. Soils generally have moderate to high surface erosion potential, and moderate to high productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings in this area are all low (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately), with the majority being low (see table below). In some locations, roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation uses have resulted in accelerated erosion, stream channel modification, and streambank degradation.

The management area is in portions of the Upper Squaw, Little Squaw, Second Fork Squaw, Cottonwood, Ola Valley and Banks Watersheds of the Payette River Subbasin. The major streams in the area are Squaw Creek, Little Squaw Creek, Second Fork Squaw Creek, Third Fork Squaw Creek, and Shirts Creek. Sage Hen Reservoir is the largest body of standing water in the area. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from high (functioning appropriately) to moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately), with the majority being moderate (see table below). Some areas have impacts from roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation that have increased sedimentation and nutrient levels. No water bodies within the management area were listed in 1998 as impaired under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. There are no TMDL-assigned subwatersheds associated with this area.

Subwatershed Vulnerability			Geomorphic Integrity			Water Quality Integrity			No. 303(d) Subs	No. Subs With TMDLs	No. Public Water System Subs
High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low			
0	0	9	0	3	6	2	6	1	0	0	0

Anadromous fish species no longer exist within area streams due to downstream dams that block their migration routes to and from the ocean. Focal and adjunct habitats for threatened bull trout are found in this area. Bull trout occur within streams of the Squaw-Pole, Dodson, and Third Fork subwatersheds, with strong populations occurring in the latter subwatershed. Redband trout are presently found in streams within the Kennedy and Dodson subwatersheds. Sage Hen Reservoir is a popular fishery with both native and introduced fish species. Aquatic habitat is

functioning at risk in some locations due to accelerated sediment from timber management, livestock grazing, and recreation use. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of non-native fish species and habitat impacts noted above. The Third Fork and Squaw-Pole subwatersheds have been identified as important to the recovery of listed fish species, and as high-priority areas for active restoration.

Vegetation - An estimated 19 percent of the management area is comprised of rock, water, or shrubland and grassland vegetation groups, including Mountain Big Sage, Montane Shrub, Perennial Grass Slopes, and Perennial Grass Montane. The main forested vegetation groups in the area are Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (33 percent), Dry Grand Fir (7 percent), Cool Moist Grand Fir (26 percent), and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir 9 percent).

The Mountain Big Sage and Montane Shrub groups are functioning properly, with only minor impacts from past livestock grazing. The Perennial Grass Slopes and Perennial Grass Montane groups are at or near properly functioning condition; however, past grazing impacts and introduced species have altered composition and structure in localized areas. Rush skeletonweed and other noxious weeds are increasing.

The Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine, Dry Grand Fir, and Cool Moist Grand Fir groups are not functioning properly in some areas due primarily to timber management and fire exclusion that have altered stand composition and structure. In managed areas, stands are dominantly young and mid-aged, with relatively few large trees, snags, and large woody debris. In unmanaged areas, stands have more late seral grand fir and less early seral ponderosa pine than desirable, and moderate to high levels of insect and disease infestations. Large-tree, single-storied stand structure is mostly absent. Noxious weeds and introduced species are increasing in the understory.

Riparian vegetation is functioning at risk due to localized impacts from timber harvest, roads, recreation, and livestock grazing. Noxious weeds and introduced plant species are increasing.

Botanical Resources - Tolmie's onion, a Region 4 Sensitive species, occurs in this management area. Swamp onion, a Region 4 Watch species, also occurs in this area. No federally listed or proposed plant species are known to occur in this area, but potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses, Spalding's silene, and slender moonwort may exist. Ute ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have high potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas from 1,000 to 7,000 feet. Spalding's silene, a Threatened species, may occur in fescue grassland habitats from 1,500 to 5,500 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants - Dalmatian toadflax, rush skeletonweed, and diffuse knapweed occur in the area, particularly along the main road corridors. An estimated 51 percent of the management area is highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plant species. The main weed of concern is Dalmatian toadflax, which occurs in scattered populations throughout the area.

Subwatersheds in the table below have an inherently high risk of weed establishment and spread from activities identified with a “yes” in the various activity columns. This risk is due to the amount of drainage area that is highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and the relatively high level of exposure from those identified vectors or carriers of weed seed.

Subwatershed	Road-related Activities	Livestock Use	Timber Harvest	Recreation & Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Kennedy Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Cottonwood-Pine	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Sagehen	Yes	No	No	No	No
Third Fork Squaw Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
High Valley	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Shirts Creek	No	Yes	No	No	No

Wildlife Resources - Ponderosa and Douglas-fir forests at lower elevations provide habitat for white-headed woodpecker and flammulated owl, and winter range for deer and elk. Higher elevation forests provide habitat for Region 4 sensitive species such as goshawk, boreal owls, and three-toed woodpeckers, and summer range for mammals such as deer, elk, black bear, and mountain lion. All habitats provide nesting and forage for migratory landbirds. Terrestrial wildlife habitat is functioning at risk in some areas due to habitat changes from timber harvest and fire exclusion, fragmentation from roads and harvest, and disturbance from recreation uses.

Recreation Resources - The Snowbank IRA features undeveloped recreation with non-motorized trail opportunities and high visual sensitivity. Dispersed recreation in the rest of the area includes hunting, fishing, ATV use, snowmobiling, horseback riding, and hiking. Both trail and cross-country snowmobiling is very popular in the West Mountains area. Sage Hen Reservoir provides water-oriented recreation along with four developed campgrounds, two boat ramps, and a picnic area. About half the use in this management area is local, originating from Emmett, and much of the rest comes from the Treasure Valley. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Units 32 and 32A. Recreation special uses include commercial campground operations at Sage Hen Reservoir and the Third Fork Guard Station cabin rental.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in the area include Prehistoric Archaeology, Ethnic History, Ranching, Timber, Transportation, Forest Service History, and the CCC. This area contains one of the highest densities of prehistoric sites on the Forest because of its proximity to Timber Butte, the largest known obsidian source in Idaho. West Mountain Ridge was a popular transportation corridor between Shoshonean winter villages on the Payette and Weiser Rivers and summer camps in the Long Valley area. Eagle Eye, his family, and other Indian families established homesteads in the Dry Buck area in the 1880s. The wagon road following Squaw Creek and Little Squaw Creek, over Ola Summit and through High Valley to Smiths Ferry, was the major route to Long Valley until the State funded construction of a new road up the North Fork Payette River in 1911. Ranching was an important industry in this management area, and the focus of early Forest rangers at Third Fork Guard Station, established in 1908. CCC crews constructed new buildings on the compound during the 1930s.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 64,100 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 40,500 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 8 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPC 5.2, as shown on the map displaying the MPCs for this management area. Lands in MPC 4.1c have been identified as unsuited for timber production. Outside of the Snowbank IRA and the Sage Hen Reservoir area, intensive timber activities have occurred in Management Area 16. This area includes the Third Fork Progeny Test Area, used to test and evaluate the growth and development of trees from different genetic sources. Forest products such as fuelwood, posts, and poles are also collected in designated areas.

Rangeland Resources - This area has portions of nine cattle allotments and features a large number of range structural improvements. Management Area 16 provides an estimated 30,100 acres of capable rangeland. These acres represent about 8 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources - This area is open for mineral activities and prospecting. The potential for locatable minerals is low to unknown. The potential for geothermal resources is moderate to unknown. The potential for other leasable minerals is low. The potential for common variety mineral materials is moderate or unknown in most of the area, but high in the Snowbank IRA.

Fire Management - Prescribed fire has been used to reduce activity-generated and natural fuels. This management area is not in the Forest's wildland fire use planning area, so no wildland fire use is anticipated. A 1,500-acre prescribed burn in 1995-96 focused on reducing natural fuels. The only large wildfire to occur in the area in the last 15 years was the Snowbank Fire in 1996. Ola is a nearby National Fire Plan community, and Squaw-Pole, High Valley, Kennedy Creek, and Shirts Creek subwatersheds are considered wildland-urban interface areas due to private development adjacent to the Forest. Shirts Creek is also considered to pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 1 percent lethal, 46 percent mixed1 or 2, and 53 percent non-lethal. An estimated 46 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. Most of this change has occurred in the historically non-lethal fire regimes, resulting in conditions where wildfire would likely be much larger and more intense and severe than historically. In addition, 25 percent of the area is in moderately departed conditions. Wildfire in these areas may result in somewhat larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity, but not to the same extent as in the highly departed areas in non-lethal fire regimes.

Lands and Special Uses - Special-use authorizations include a designated utility corridor containing the Emmett-Stibnite power transmission line.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

In addition to Forest-wide Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines that provide direction for all management areas, the following direction has been developed specifically for this area.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration	General Standard	1601	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the Management Area ROS objectives in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c Roads standards, below.
	Road Standard	1602	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	1603	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the ROS settings in the area.
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Road Standard	1604	<p>There shall be no net increase in road densities in the MPC 5.2 portion of the Third Fork Squaw Creek subwatershed unless it can be demonstrated through the project-level NEPA analysis and related Biological Assessment that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, the increase in road densities shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are in a degraded condition, the increase in road densities shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired resource conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitat are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitat. <p>An exception to this standard is where additional roads are required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).</p>

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Road Standard	1605	<p>New roads and landings shall be located outside of RCAs in the MPC 5.2 portion of the Third Fork Squaw Creek subwatershed unless it can be demonstrated through the project-level NEPA analysis and related Biological Assessment that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, the addition of a new road or landing in an RCA shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are in a degraded condition, the addition of a new road or landing in an RCA shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired resource conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitats are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitats. <p>An exception to this standard is where construction of new roads in RCAs is required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).</p>
	Fire Guideline	1606	<p>Prescribed fire may be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Maintain or restore desired vegetative conditions on unsuited timberlands; or b) Maintain or restore desired fuel conditions for all vegetation types; or c) Maintain desired vegetative conditions on suited timberlands within PVGs 2 through 10.
	Fire Guideline	1607	<p>The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to developments and investments.</p>
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Goal	1608	Maintain or restore bull trout habitat in Third Fork and Squaw-Pole Subwatersheds.
	Objective	1609	Initiate restoration of watershed conditions and fish habitat in the Squaw-Pole subwatershed to help strengthen the local bull trout population. Maintain habitat conditions for the strong local bull trout population in the Third Fork subwatershed.
	Objective	1610	Identify subwatersheds for restoration activities to remove major sources of management-related fine sediment.
	Objective	1611	Develop a plan to restore the upper Squaw Creek stream channel where numerous in-stream structures have degraded the stream's function and condition. The plan should promote large pool development where in-stream structures have reduced pool quality.
	Objective	1612	Maintain and improve headwater streams for spawning and rearing habitat for native fish.
	Objective	1613	Work with water users to maintain minimum flows in Sage Hen Creek.
	Objective	1614	Improve watershed conditions along Van Wyck livestock driveway.
	Objective	1615	Restore fish passage in Gabes Creek and Ramage Creek.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	1616	Coordinate with private landowners to evaluate presence/absence of bull trout in Little Squaw and Shirts Creeks and to improve fish passage downstream to the Payette River.
	Objective	1617	Reduce sediment from the roads in the Little Squaw Creek drainage by improving maintenance and surfacing as needed.
	Objective	1618	Repair or restore beaver pond area in the Little Squaw Creek drainage.
	Objective	1619	Identify impacts to fisheries in Beal Dam backwaters and connected waterways, and develop, if needed, a restoration plan to address impacts.
	Objective	1620	Coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game on removal of brook trout from Wilson Meadows area.
Vegetation	Objective	1621	Restore and maintain western larch as an early seral species component in the Cool Moist Grand Fir vegetation group, as described in Appendix A.
	Objective	1622	Restore the large, seral species tree component to enhance restore stand composition and structure (as described in Appendix A) in the Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Warm Moist Ponderosa, Dry Grand Fir, and Cool Moist Grand Fir vegetation groups.
	Objective	1623	Restore the early seral aspen component in the forested vegetation groups, as described in Appendix A, to restore wildlife habitat and improve visual quality.
	Objective	1624	Manage vegetation in riparian areas to reduce the threat of uncharacteristic wildfire.
Botanical Resources	Objective	1625	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including Tolmie's onion, to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
Non-native Plants	Objective	1626	Manage designated non-native, invasive weeds in an integrated approach, as specified in the Strategic and Annual Operating Plans established by the Upper Payette River Cooperative Weed Management Area participants.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	1627	Manage to provide for unique wild turkey habitat by using mechanical prescriptions and prescribed fire that promote shrub regeneration.
	Objective	1628	Coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game on Moose re-introduction and management.
	Guideline	1629	Project design and implementation should provide for maintenance and restoration of habitat for elk calving in the area.
Recreation Resources	Objective	1630	Emphasize developed recreation opportunities and experiences in the Sage Hen Reservoir area. Reduce conflicts between recreation and grazing in the Sage Hen Basin.
	Objective	1631	Improve the Sagehen nature trail through site hardening and development of interpretive facilities to enhance wheelchair access and recreation experiences at the site.
	Objective	1632	Assess impacts from dispersed recreation sites and off-road motorized use to soil and water resources throughout the management area. Reduce identified impacts through site hardening, relocation, decommissioning, travel management, or other appropriate means.
	Objective	1633	Evaluate the need for additional developed recreation facilities to accommodate increased use and demand.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description																
Recreation Resources	Objective	1634	Develop a vegetation management plan for the Sage Hen Recreation complex and foreground scenic areas to guide vegetation management in these developed recreation areas.																
	Objective	1635	Continue cooperation with counties on grooming trails to maintain over-snow recreation opportunities.																
	Objective	1636	Maintain Snowbank Inventoried Roadless Area (IRA) as non-motorized use during the snow-free recreation season. Develop parking areas for access to Snowbank IRA.																
	Objective	1637	Provide over-snow recreation access and emphasize user education to minimize the potential social or environmental impacts.																
	Objective	1638	Continue to provide high-quality snowmobiling opportunities, both trail and cross-country, in the Snowbank portion of the area.																
	Objective	1639	Develop trail management plans to guide trail maintenance activities.																
	Objective	1640	Provide for and designate ATV and other off-road vehicle opportunities using networks of old roads throughout the management area.																
	Objective	1641	<p>Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="699 835 1406 1052"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">ROS Class</th> <th colspan="2">Percent of Mgt. Area</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Summer</th> <th>Winter</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</td> <td>15%</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td> <td>3%</td> <td>81%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Natural</td> <td>11%</td> <td>1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Modified</td> <td>71%</td> <td>18%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above numbers reflect current travel regulations. These numbers may change as a result of future travel regulation planning.</p>	ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area		Summer	Winter	Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	15%	0%	Semi-Primitive Motorized	3%	81%	Roaded Natural	11%	1%	Roaded Modified	71%
ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area																		
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Roaded Natural	11%	1%																	
Roaded Modified	71%	18%																	
Cultural Resources	Objective	1642	Maintain the National Register status of eligible properties including Third Fork Guard Station, which is on the Forest's cabin rental program.																
	Objective	1643	Conduct inventories to identify historic properties along Shirts Creek and West Mountain Ridge, cabin remains at Miners Flat, and old lookouts at Gabes Peak, Dry Buck, and Greenfield Flats.																
	Objective	1644	Monitor the conditions of historic properties in the management area, specifically prehistoric sites in the vicinity of Sage Hen Reservoir and Dry Buck, and cabins on Greenfield Flats and Wilson Meadows.																
	Objective	1645	Develop a management plan for Third Fork Guard Station to help maintain this historic property.																
Timberland Resources	Objective	1646	Manage suited timberlands for a sustained yield, even flow of forest products, while reducing sediment delivery and moving toward desired vegetation conditions.																
	Objective	1647	Reduce the hazard from uncharacteristic wildfire and insect epidemics, with primary emphasis on forestland supporting ponderosa pine.																
	Objective	1648	Protect and manage the Third Fork Progeny testing area in accordance with its management plan to produce genetically improved seeds for future reforestation on southwest Idaho forests. Use thinning, fertilization, and pollen management as needed to produce seed cones for ponderosa pine.																

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Timberland Resources	Objective	1649	Reduce the opportunity for noxious weed establishment and spread by keeping suitable weed sites to a minimum during timber harvest activities in the Kennedy Creek, Cottonwood-Pine, and High Valley subwatersheds. Consider such methods as designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fire line construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.
	Guideline	1650	Existing noxious weed infestations should be treated on landings, skid trails, and helibases in the project area before timber harvest activities begin in the Kennedy Creek, Cottonwood-Pine, and High Valley subwatersheds.
Rangeland Resources	Objective	1651	Reduce or eliminate livestock/developed recreation conflicts, particularly around Sage Hen Reservoir.
	Objective	1652	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from livestock grazing activities in the Kennedy Creek Cottonwood-Pine, High Valley, and Shirts Creek subwatersheds. Consider changes in the timing, intensity, duration, or frequency of livestock use; the location of salting; and restoration of watering sites.
Mineral Resources	Objective	1653	Evaluate mine at Miners Flat for restoration needs.
	Objective	1654	Locate and evaluate existing and abandoned mines for reclamation needs.
Fire Management	Objective	1655	Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments within and adjacent to wildland-urban interface areas to reduce wildfire hazards. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans for interface in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.
	Objective	1656	Coordinate and emphasize fire education and prevention programs with private landowners to help reduce wildfire hazard and risk. Work with landowners to increase defensible space.
	Objective	1657	Coordinate with adjacent land managers (BLM, State of Idaho, Payette NF) to develop compatible wildland fire suppression strategies.
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	1658	Identify and evaluate opportunities for land exchange in the Sage Hen Recreation Area to acquire lands having high recreation value to increase recreational access, expand existing facilities, and improve management efficiency.
	Objective	1659	Evaluate and maintain as appropriate special use permits, such as Boise State University's seismic sensor, utility corridors, and fiber optic buried cables.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1660	Develop site plans that include maintenance and improvement needs for all administration sites, including Tripod Lookout.
	Objective	1661	Coordinate with Federal Aviation Administration to improve road maintenance, with emphasis on Forest Road 446 to reduce sediment.
	Objective	1662	Continue use and maintenance of gravel pit sites, and evaluate and locate new sources of gravel.
	Objective	1663	Pursue Forest Highway designations for Forest Roads 614 and 626.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1664	<p>Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Kennedy Creek, Cottonwood-Pine, Sage Hen, Third Fork Squaw Creek, and High Valley subwatersheds. Methods to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When decommissioning roads, treat weeds before roads are made impassable. ➤ Schedule road maintenance activities when weeds are least likely to be viable or spread. Blade from least to most infested sites. ➤ Consult or coordinate with the district noxious weed coordinator when scheduling road maintenance activities. ➤ Periodically inspect road systems and rights of way. ➤ Avoid accessing water for dust abatement through weed-infested sites, or utilize mitigation to minimize weed seed transport.
Scenic Environment	Standard	1665	<p>Meet the visual quality objectives as represented on the Forest VQO Map, and where indicated in the table below as viewed from the following areas/corridors:</p>

Sensitive Travel Route Or Use Area	Sensitivity Level	Visual Quality Objective								
		Fg			Mg			Bg		
		Variety Class			Variety Class			Variety Class		
		A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Sage Hen Reservoir and recreation sites	1	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	M
State Highway 55	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Forest Road 446	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Forest Trail 153, 133	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 618, 626, 614, 645	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 643, 644	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM
Forest Trails 131, 134, 135, 136, 137	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 138, 140, 141, 223	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM