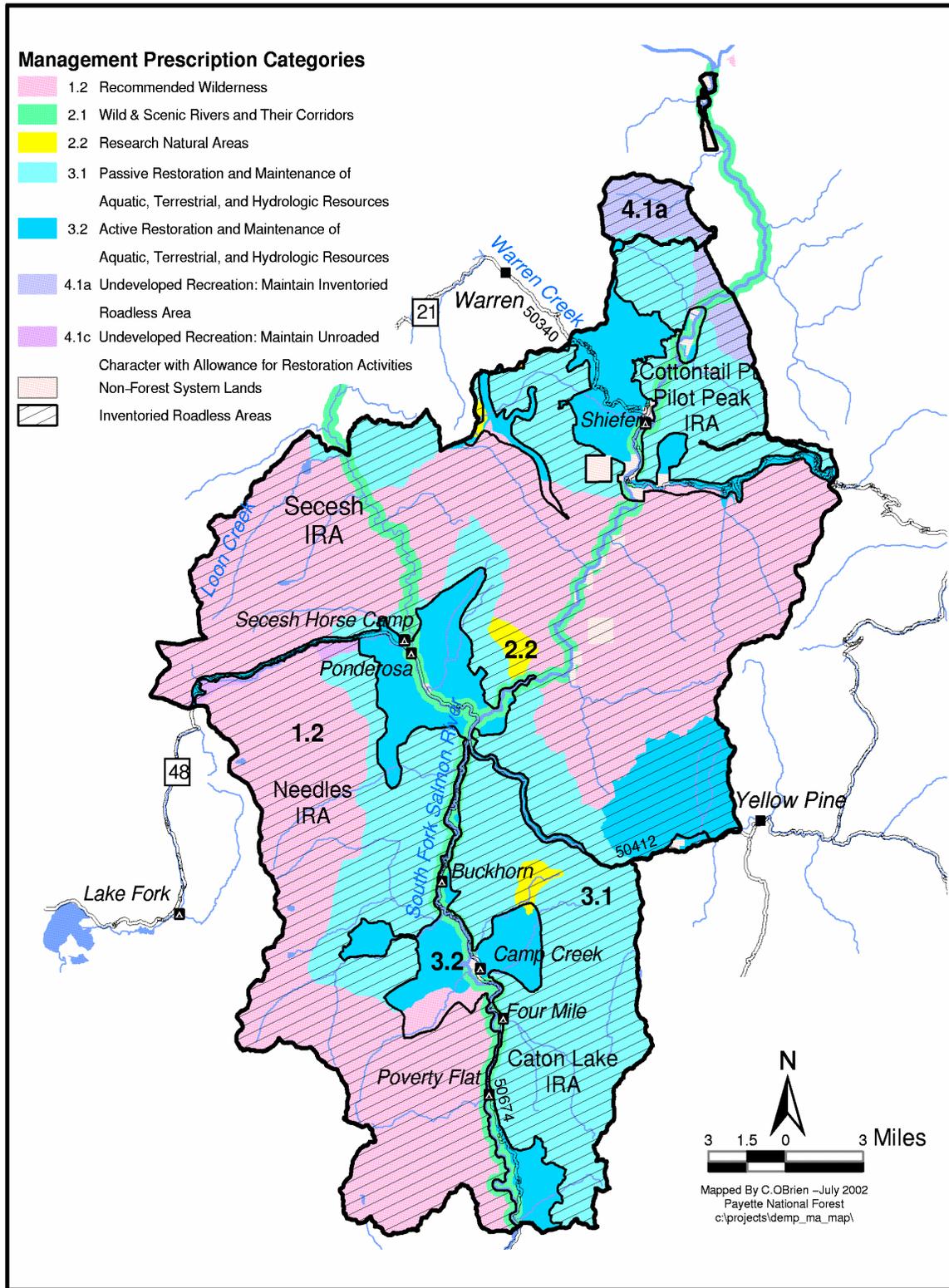


Management Area 12 –South Fork Salmon River –Location Map



Management Area 12 South Fork Salmon River

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 12 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
1.2 – Recommended Wilderness	48
2.2 – Research Natural Areas	1
3.1 – Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial & Hydrologic Resources	32
3.2 – Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial & Hydrologic Resources	16
4.1a - Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Inventoried Roadless Areas	2
4.1c – Undeveloped Rec.: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration	1

General Location and Description - Management Area 12 is comprised of lands administered by the Payette National Forest within the South Fork Salmon River drainage, excluding Wilderness lands, the Upper Secesh River, and the upper East Fork South Fork (see map, preceding page). Management Area 12 includes the area near the confluence of the South Fork Salmon River and the Main Salmon River known as Mackay Bar. The management area lies in Idaho and Valley Counties, and is part of the McCall and Krassel Ranger Districts. The management area is an estimated 362,800 acres, which includes several small private inholdings (about 1 percent of the area, total), most of which are along the river corridor. Management Area 12 does not include portions of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, and the Upper Secesh River and Upper East Fork South Fork Watersheds that are also in the South Fork Salmon River drainage. The area is bordered by Payette National Forest to the north and west, Boise National Forest to the south, and Payette National Forest to the east, including the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Area. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been watershed restoration, fish and wildlife habitat restoration, and recreation. Some timber harvest has also occurred, and extensive livestock grazing occurred historically.

Access - The main access to the southern portion of this area is by paved Forest Road 674, the South Fork Road. This road is reached most easily from Cascade via paved Boise National Forest Roads 022 (Warm Lake Road) and 474 (South Fork Road). Access to the middle portion of the management area is by Forest Highway 048, from Lick Creek Summit to the South Fork, and from the South Fork to Yellow Pine along the East Fork South Fork Salmon River. Access to the northern portion of the area is primarily by Forest Road 340 from Warren Summit to Trails End subdivision and Elk Summit. Access to the Mackay Bar area is by primitive road from Dixie, Idaho, through the Nez Perce National Forest, or by the Salmon River via jet boat or raft, or by airplane to the Mackay Bar private airfield, or by trail from the Payette National Forest. The density of classified roads for the entire area is an estimated 1.1 miles per square mile. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0 and 5.3 miles per square mile. An

estimated 10 miles of existing road have been decommissioned, or obliterated and removed from the Forest Road System in the past decade. A network of trails provides access to portions of the roadless areas. Several private airstrips along the main river corridor also provide access to small planes.

Special Features - The South Fork Salmon River aquatic system has a rare and significant assemblage of wild chinook salmon, steelhead trout, bull trout, and westslope cutthroat trout, the first three of which are listed as threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This is an aquatic stronghold and recovery area for these species. Some streams or portions of streams within the area are designated critical habitat and Essential Fish Habitat for chinook salmon.

An estimated 84 percent of the management area is inventoried as roadless, including portions of the Caton Lake, Cottontail Point/Pilot Peak, Secesh, and Needles Roadless Areas. The Forest has recommended portions of the Secesh and Needles areas for Wilderness designation. Part of the management area lies adjacent to the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Lick Creek Block Stream and Rainbow Rock Arch are proposed National Natural Landmarks within the area.

The area also includes the Circle End Creek and Phoebe Meadows Research Natural Areas, and a portion of the Pony Meadows Research Natural Area. About 360 acres of the 1,460-acre Pony Meadows RNA are in Management Area 12, with the remainder in Management Area 10. Pony Meadows contains unaltered examples of a wet meadow, a shallow lake, ponds, and bogs. Circle End Creek (1,464 acres) has at least nine forest habitat types, and has been used as a control area for research. Phoebe Meadows (1,500 acres) was established for its large variety of subalpine fir and Douglas-fir forest types, and for its diverse mountain meadow system and aquatic features.

The South Fork Salmon River has been found suitable for National Wild and Scenic River designation. The river is considered suitable because of its outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fisheries, ecological/botanical, and cultural resource values. Portions of Segments 1 and 2 lie within this management area. The Segment 1 portion is 50.5 miles, with a river corridor of 14,700 acres, and a recommended classification of Recreational. The segment 2 portion is 5 miles, with a corridor of 1,400 acres, and a recommended classification of Wild.

The Secesh River has also been found suitable for National Wild and Scenic River designation. The river is considered suitable because of its outstandingly remarkable fisheries values. A portion a Segment 2 and all of Segment 3 lie within this management area. The Segment 2 portion is 12 miles, with a river corridor of 3,300 acres, and a recommended classification of Wild. Segment 3 is 5 miles long, with a river corridor of 1,300 acres, and a recommended classification of Recreational.

Air Quality - This management area lies primarily within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-15 and in Valley and Idaho Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. An ambient air monitor is located in McCall within the airshed to evaluate current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. Four Class I areas are within 100 kilometers of the management area: the Hells Canyon, Eagle Cap, Sawtooth, and Selway-Bitterroot 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 sources of particulate matter in the counties were wildfire, prescribed fire, and fugitive dust from unpaved roads. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute to particulate matter emissions. The amount of agricultural-related burning was very low within Valley County (less than 600 acres) and moderate within Idaho County (an estimated 13,500 acres). There were no point sources within either county.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 2,180 feet on the South Fork Salmon River to 9,322 feet atop North Loon Mountain. This large management area has a number of different landforms. The areas closest to the South Fork Salmon River and its main tributaries are dominated by deeply entrenched, steep canyonlands, with dominant slope gradients of 40 to 80 percent. Most of these canyonlands extend up to glaciated mountain ridge systems, with high-elevation peaks and cirque basins that also have 40 to 80 percent slopes. The surface geology is dominated by granitic rocks of the Idaho batholith and scattered Paleozoic metamorphic rocks. Soils generally have moderately high to high surface erosion potential, and low to moderate productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from moderate to high, with the majority being high (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from high (functioning appropriately) to moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). Localized impacts from roads include accelerated sediment and stream channel modification.

The management area comprises portions of six 5th field hydrologic units in the South Fork Salmon River Subbasin. The units are: Lower Secesh, Lower South Fork Salmon River, Middle South Fork Salmon River, Lower East Fork South Fork Salmon River, Buckhorn-Fitsum, and Blackmare-Fourmile. The major streams in the area are the South Fork Salmon River, Secesh River, East Fork South Fork Salmon River, Lick Creek, Pony Creek, Elk Creek, Fitsum Creek, Buckhorn Creek, Fourmile Creek, and Blackmare Creek. There are dozens of high-elevation lakes in the area, most of them along the eastern side of the Lick Creek Mountains. These include Loon, Duck, Hum, Thirtythree, Nick, Buckhorn, Buckhorn Mountain, and Blackmare Lakes.

Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from high (functioning appropriately) to moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). Localized impacts from roads, mining, and recreation are primarily related to sedimentation for sections of the South Fork Salmon River and East Fork South Fork. Fifteen of the 35 subwatersheds in this area were listed in 1998 as having impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. These subwatersheds are Mill-Station, Chicken-Box, Grouse-Big Flat, Jeanot-Rock, Fritzer-Hall, Tailholt-Moss, Lower East Fork South Fork Salmon River, Loosum-Reegan, Caton Creek, Krassel-Indian, Buckhorn Creek, Fitsum Creek, Phoebe, Nasty-Jakie, and Cliff-Goat. The pollutants of concern are sediment and metals. There is a TMDL associated with the subbasin that contains these segments, and that subbasin includes about a third of the subwatersheds in the management area.

Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, and redband rainbow trout have been found throughout the South Fork Salmon River Subbasin. During the 1950s, the South Fork Salmon River, including all of its tributaries, was the largest producer of wild

summer chinook salmon in the Columbia River Basin. Numbers of spawning salmon have declined precipitously since the construction of the Lower Snake River dams in the 1960s and 70s. The South Fork Salmon River is one of three drainages in Idaho supporting wild native steelhead. Bull trout have been found in all reaches of the South Fork Salmon River and in 18 tributaries that have been surveyed. Spawning, rearing, and migration habitat exists for fluvial and resident populations of bull trout and westslope cutthroat. Introduced brook trout occur, but are still limited in distribution. Aquatic habitat is functioning properly throughout much of the area, but is functioning at risk in localized areas due primarily to accelerated sediment impacts from roads and recreation. The Jeanot-Rock subwatershed has been identified as important to the recovery of listed fish species, and as a high-priority area for restoration.

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			
25	10	0	13	8	14	8	15	12	15	12	0

The integrity of fish habitat in Area 12 is dependent on management of other upstream management areas, including Management Areas 11 and 13 on the Payette National Forest, and 19, 20, and 21 on the Boise NF. Management actions in Area 12 cannot be considered independently of actions in these areas.

Vegetation - Vegetation at lower elevations is typically grasslands, shrublands, ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on south and west aspects, and Douglas-fir and grand fir forests on north and east aspects. Mid elevations are dominated by forest communities of Douglas-fir, grand fir, and subalpine fir, with pockets of lodgepole pine and aspen. Upper elevations feature subalpine fir communities that include a large component of whitebark pine.

The main potential vegetation groups in this area are High Elevation Subalpine Fir (17 percent), Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (16 percent), Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (14 percent), Cool Moist Grand Fir (13 percent), Warm Moist/Hydric Subalpine Fir (12 percent), and Dry Grand Fir (8 percent). Rock, water, shrublands, and grasslands comprise about 6 percent of the area.

Warm Dry Subalpine Fir, Warm Moist/Hydric Subalpine Fir, and High Elevation Subalpine Fir are at properly functioning condition. The Cool Moist Grand Fir group is functioning at risk due primarily to fire exclusion that has led to old, dense stands with high levels of shade-tolerant grand fir and Douglas-fir and low levels of ponderosa pine, western larch, and aspen. The Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine and Dry Grand Fir groups are functioning at risk for the same reasons, although an aggressive prescribed fire program in some areas has thinned out many stands and reduced fuels over thousands of acres. Large areas within this management area (e.g., Savage, Chicken, Indian, Nick, and Elk Creeks) have burned in wildfires in the last 20 years. In unmanaged areas, the hazard for stand-replacing fire in this group is high. Seeding of non-native grasses and forbs, introduction of noxious weeds, and past overgrazing have altered Perennial Grass Slopes and Perennial Grass Montane groups to the point that they are functioning at risk.

Riparian vegetation is functioning properly in much of the management area, except in localized areas that have primarily road-related impacts. These areas are functioning at risk.

Botanical Resources - Cascade reedgrass and giant helleborine orchid, current Region 4 Sensitive species, occur in this area. Region 4 proposed Sensitive species include short-styled tofieldia, wolf's current, and Kellogg's bitterroot. Although no federally listed or proposed plant species are currently known to occur in the area, potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses, Spalding's silene, and slender moonwort may exist. Spalding's silene, a Threatened species, may occur in fescue grassland habitat types up to 5,500 feet. Ute Ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate to high potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas up to 7,000 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 - A number of noxious weeds and exotic plants have been introduced into the management area, particularly along main travel ways. An estimated 32 percent of the management area is highly susceptible to non-native plant establishment and spread. The main weeds of concern are spotted knapweed and rush skeletonweed, which currently occur in small, scattered populations within the area. Canada thistle, St. Johnswort, and yellow toadflax are also found within the area. Buckhorn, Camp Creek, Four Mile, Ponderosa, Poverty Flat, and Big Creek Campgrounds are considered highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and spread.

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
Grouse-Big Flat	Yes	No	No	No	No
Fritzer-Hall	Yes	No	No	No	No
Tailholt-Moss	Yes	No	No	No	No
Lower EFSFSR	Yes	No	No	No	No
Loosum-Reegan	Yes	No	No	No	No
Krassel-Indian	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Fitsum Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
North Fork Fitsum Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Phoebe Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Camp Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Nasty-Jakie	Yes	No	No	No	No
Four Mile Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Cliff-Goat	Yes	No	No	No	No
Blackmare Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Zena Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Jeanot-Rock	No	No	No	Yes	No
West Fork Buckhorn Ck.	No	No	No	Yes	No

Wildlife Resources - The wide range of elevations and vegetation types in the management area provide a variety of wildlife habitats. The South Fork Salmon River corridor historically attracted migratory bald eagles, but numbers have declined with declining salmon runs. Much of the lower-elevation grasslands and shrublands is important winter/spring range for elk, deer, and bighorn sheep. Mid-elevation Douglas-fir forests provide habitat for a number of Region 4 sensitive species, including northern goshawk, and fisher. Flammulated owl and potential white-headed woodpecker habitat is found in lower elevation ponderosa pine. Ponderosa pine has been identified as an ecosystem at risk (UCRB). Bighorn sheep, golden eagles, and bats use the rocky bluffs that extend up steep canyonlands. High-elevation subalpine fir forests provide habitat for wolverine, great gray and boreal owls, three-toed woodpecker, as well as summer range for mammals such as elk, black bear, and mountain lion. Lynx have not been observed in the area, but suitable habitat and corridors exist, and habitat has been mapped in Lynx Analysis Units. The entire area provides habitat for migratory landbirds. The management area is within the Central Idaho Wolf Recovery Area, and wolves are known to occur here. Overall, terrestrial habitat is properly functioning in most areas; however, there are localized fragmentation impacts from roads, harvest units, and wildfires.

Recreation Resources - This area attracts a variety of dispersed recreation uses such as hunting, fishing, hiking, ATV use, motorcycling, mountain biking, sightseeing white water boating, and camping. There are many dispersed campsites and six developed campgrounds in the management area. In addition to local users and tribal interests, many recreationists come from the Treasure Valley (Boise, Nampa, Caldwell), about 100 miles to the south. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Units 19A, 20A, and 25. In years of surplus hatchery chinook salmon returns, a sport-fishing season is permitted by Idaho Department of Fish and Game. A network of trails provides access to portions of the roadless areas, offering a variety of motorized and non-motorized opportunities. Portions of the Idaho Centennial Trail lie within this management area. Special uses include three outfitter and guide operations.

Mackay Bar has a developed resort, including a lodge and private transfer camp for outfitting into the Frank Church--River of No Return Wilderness. Badley Ranch occupies a portion of the management area. One time a working ranch, it now serves mainly as a seasonal residence. Its northernmost segment, the Copenhaver property, has been subdivided into 24 recreational residence lots. Further subdivision and subsequent development is anticipated.

A spectrum of trail opportunities and experiences are provided for ATV, 2-wheel motorized use, and non-motorized use, with loop opportunities emphasized. Outfitter guide opportunities are provided to the public. Recreational boating opportunities are balanced with protection of sensitive riparian corridors and fish habitat.

Scenic Environment – Visually sensitive routes and use areas represent locations from which the scenic environment is considered especially important. These routes or areas generally have a more restrictive VQO assigned to them than areas not seen from such locations. The following is a list of visually sensitive routes or use areas with this management area. Some roads or trails may have segments that are listed at different sensitivity levels. There may also be sensitive routes or use areas in adjacent management areas that could be affected by actions taken in this management area.

Route or Area Type	Sensitivity Level	Name of Route or Area
Roads	1	McCall-Stibnite 412, Warren-Profile Gap 340, South Fork Salmon River 674
Roads	2	Smith Knob Lookout 355, Hays Station 337, Pilot Peak 341, Pony Meadows 359, 1211, South Fork Salmon River 674, Buckhorn 404
Trails	1	Split Creek Lookout 084
Trails	2	South Fork Blackmare Cutoff 094, South Fork Blackmare Creek 305, Blackmare Creek 100, West Fork Buckhorn Creek 094, Fitsum Creek 087, Split Creek 081, Secesh River 080, Grimmitt Creek 129, Tailholt 079, South Fork Salmon 4WD 076, Rattlesnake Peak 123, Williams Peak 073, South Fork Sheep Creek 071, Rainbow Ridge 070
Use Areas	1	Blackmare Lake, Square Top Lake, Nick Lake, Buckhorn Lake, Buckhorn Mountain Lake, City Lakes, Thirty Three Lake, Duck Lake, Hum Lake, Enos Lake, Jungle Lake, Blue Lake, Loon Lake, Ponderosa Campground
Use Areas	2	Pilot Peak Lookout, Burgdorf Summit, Smith Saddle Lookout, Hays Station, Cow Lake, Water Stop Use Site, Williams Lookout, Poverty Flat Campground, Fourmile Campground, Camp Creek Campground, Buckhorn Campground

Cultural Resources – Cultural themes in this area include Prehistoric, Settlement, Chinese Heritage, and Forest Service Administration. This area has a high concentration of historic and prehistoric cultural resources. Historically, the benches along the South Fork Salmon River corridor had many early homesteads, and several private inholdings exist today, including ranches, seasonal residences, and the Trails End subdivision. Krassel and Hays Station Guard Stations are both listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Chinese terraced gardens at Hays Station are also on the National Register. Prehistoric sites include house pits, rock art, and other artifacts. The South Fork Salmon River corridor remains a significant area for Native American treaty rights. The Nez Perce, Shoshone-Bannock, and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes traditionally used the area for fishing, hunting, gathering, trading, camping at hot springs, drying fish and animal hides, and conducting sacred ceremonies.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 258,000 tentatively suited acres in this management area, there are no identified suited timberlands. Forest vegetation management actions may be undertaken to support the achievement of vegetation desired conditions and other resource objectives in areas allocated to MPCs 3.1, 3.2, and 4.1c. Any timber production that may result from forest vegetation management actions will not count toward the allowable sale quantity but will contribute toward the Forest's Total Sale Program Quantity.

Scattered pockets of timber harvest have occurred in the past. Three salvage sales occurred in parts of this management area in 1996, but these actions did not construct any new permanent roads. House logs, fuelwood, posts, and poles can be harvested or collected in designated areas.

Rangeland Resources - Although this area was heavily grazed in the earlier part of this century (predominantly by sheep), it is currently managed primarily for pack and saddle stock in specified areas. Management Area 12 has an estimated 3,600 acres of capable rangeland, which represents less than 2 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources – There are many mining claims in Management Area 12; but few have approved plans of operation. Mineral development was, and is, mainly for placer gold deposits in and along the South Fork Salmon River. The potential for mineral development is considered moderate.

Fire Management – During the last 20 years, over 100,000 acres of this area has experienced wildfire. Large wild fires include Savage Creek (1985, 12,000 acres) Whangdoodle (1989, 7,600 acres), Hartgraves (1989, 1,280 acres), Camp Creek (1992, 1,600 acres), Thunderbolt (1994, 9,000 acres), Chicken (1994, 79,000 acres), and Nick Peak (2000, 4,200 acres).

Prescribed fire has been used primarily to improve big-game winter/spring range conditions. Over the last 15 years, prescribed fires have improved over 23,000 acres of big-game winter/spring range, primarily along the South Fork Salmon River and East Fork South Fork Salmon River corridors. Fire has also been used to treat natural and activity-generated fuels.

There are no National Fire Plan communities in this area, but the Pony Creek, Grouse-Big Flat, Cow-Oompaul, Mill-Station, and Loosum-Reegan subwatersheds are considered to be wildland-urban interface areas due to private property development. Area fire regimes are estimated to be: 16 percent lethal, 54 percent mixed¹ or 2, and 30 percent non-lethal. An estimated 23 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 regimes have vegetation conditions that are moderately departed from their historical range. Wildfire in these areas may result in 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 - There are numerous isolated parcels of private lands scattered throughout the area. These private landowners often depend on access across the Forest using system roads, and in some situations may require authorization to use and occupy the Forest for road access. The Forest Service may consider purchase of these properties on a willing seller basis. There are also situations where existing trails cross private property and no public use easement exists.

Private landowners and adjacent populations utilize resources on National Forest System lands within the area. These occupancies are both permitted and trespass. Most permitted uses revolve around water systems for domestic and agricultural use.

There are two permitted hydropower projects within the area. One is an exempted Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC) project at Zena Creek Ranch along the Secesh River. Another is a FERC licensed project at Smith Creek, near Hettinger Ranch, along the lower portion of the South Fork Salmon River. Both of these projects produce electric power for on-site consumption on the private property.

Several private water systems are authorized by special-use permits. Authorized systems include a water development serving summer home sites in the Trails End subdivision, irrigation water

uses at Hettinger Ranch, a water system for both domestic and irrigation uses serving the Eiguren Ranch, and a water system for culinary use on the private property adjacent to the Eiguren Ranch. The Hettinger Ranch, Eiguren Ranch, and Davis Ranch have submitted applications for their water systems, requesting a permanent conditional easement is issued per Public Law 99-545 commonly known as the “Colorado Ditch Bill”.

Fish traps used by the Nez Perce Tribe and Idaho Department of Fish and Game for research are operated under a Memorandum of Understanding between the agencies.

A special use authorization is issued to Midvale Telephone for buried telephone line providing service in the areas of Burgdorf, Secesh Meadows, Warren and the Lower South Fork of the Salmon River. There is also a permitted telephone line buried along the road from Yellow Pine to the Eiguren Ranch.

There are three designated communication sites (Elk Summit, Nick Peak, Miners Peak) for Forest Service or other government agency communication uses only.

Facilities and Roads – The Forest maintains several administrative sites in the area to facilitate management activities. There are four lookouts currently being maintained for fire detection purposes: Pilot Peak, Williams Peak, Miners Peak, and Smith Knob. The South Fork Guard Station and the Krassel Work Center are located in the management area and provide a seasonal base for fire and other work crews.

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 1.2 Recommended Wilderness	General Standard	1201	Management actions, including wildland fire use and prescribed fire, must be designed and implemented in a manner that maintains wilderness values, as defined in the Wilderness Act.
	Vegetation Standard	1202	Mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, are prohibited.
	Recreation Standard	1203	No new motorized or mechanical uses will be allowed, except where these uses must be allowed in response to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty.
	Recreation Standard	1204	Existing motorized or mechanical uses are allowed only if they do not lead to long-term adverse changes in wilderness values.
	Road Standard	1205	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	1206	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression tactics should minimize impacts to wilderness values.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 2.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers	General Objective	1207	Work with the Regional Office to recommend the South Fork Salmon River and the Secesh River for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
	General Standard	1208	Manage the South Fork Salmon River and Secesh River suitable corridors to their assigned classification standards, and preserve their outstandingly remarkable values and free-flowing status, until the rivers are formally designated by Congress or released from further consideration as Wild and Scenic River candidates.
	Vegetation Guideline	1209	In Recreational corridors, mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, may be used as long as Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) are maintained within the river corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1210	Prescribed fire and wildland fire use may be used in any river corridor as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1211	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize the impacts of suppression activities on river classifications and ORVs.
MPC 2.2 Research Natural Areas	General Standard	1212	Mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use may only be used to maintain values for which the areas were established, or to achieve other objectives that are consistent with the RNA establishment record or management plan.
	Road Standard	1213	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, or c) To maintain the values for which the RNA was established.
	Fire Guideline	1214	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression strategies and tactics should minimize impacts to the values for which the RNA was established.
MPC 3.1 Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	General Standard	1215	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary time period (up to 3 years), and must be designed to avoid resource degradation in the short term (3-15 years) and long term (greater than 15 years).
	Vegetation Standard	1216	Mechanical vegetation treatments, excluding salvage harvest, may only occur where: a) The responsible official determines that wildland fire use or prescribed fire would result in unreasonable risk to public safety and structures, investments, or undesirable resource affects; and b) They maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species; or c) They maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species.
	Fire Standard	1217	Wildland fire use and prescribed fire may only be used where they: a) Maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species, or b) Maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 3.1 Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	Road Standard	1218	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, or c) To address immediate response situations where, if action is not taken, unacceptable impacts to hydrologic, aquatic, riparian or terrestrial resources, or health and safety, would result.
	Fire Guideline	1219	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize suppression strategies and tactics that minimize impacts on aquatic, terrestrial, or watershed resources.
MPC 3.2 Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	General Standard	1220	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary (up to 3 years) or short-term (3-15 years) time periods, and must be designed to avoid degradation of existing conditions in the long-term (greater than 15 years).
	Vegetation Standard	1221	Vegetation restoration or maintenance treatments—including wildland fire use, mechanical, and prescribed fire—may only occur where they: a) Maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species; or b) Maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species; or c) Reduce risk of impacts from wildland fire to human life, structures, and investments.
	Road Standard	1222	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, or c) To support aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed restoration activities, or d) To address immediate response situations where, if action is not taken, unacceptable impacts to hydrologic, aquatic, riparian or terrestrial resources, or health and safety, would result.
	Fire Guideline	1223	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize suppression strategies and tactics that minimize impacts on aquatic, terrestrial, or watershed resources.
MPC 4.1a Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Inventoried Roadless Areas	General Standard	1224	Management actions—including wildland fire use, prescribed fire, and special use authorizations—must be designed and implemented in a manner that does not adversely compromise the area’s roadless and undeveloped character in the temporary, short term, and long term. “Adversely compromise” means an action that results in the reduction of roadless or undeveloped acres within any specific IRA. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1a Road standard, below.
	Road Standard	1225	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	1226	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the roadless or undeveloped character of the area.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1a Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Inventoried Roadless Areas	General Standard	1227	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, wildland fire use, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the identified 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	1228	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	1229	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 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	1230	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, wildland fire use, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the unroaded landscape in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c road standard, below.
	Road Standard	1231	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	1232	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the unroaded landscape.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Goal	1233	Maintain, or improve where degraded, spawning and rearing habitat for Threatened chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and bull trout in the South Fork drainage, which has unique genetic wild stocks of chinook salmon and steelhead.
	Objective	1234	Improve water quality and geomorphic integrity by implementing watershed restoration and reducing accelerated sediment impacts in localized areas of the management area.
	Objective	1235	Assist in de-listing South Fork Salmon River from the State of Idaho's impaired water bodies list by applying appropriate and active watershed restoration to reduce sediment, which is the identified pollutant of concern.
	Objective	1236	Rehabilitate, decommission, or stabilize Forest Trail 076 (Davis Ranch Road) in the Jeanot-Rock subwatershed to reduce accelerated erosion and sedimentation.
	Objective	1237	Restore or maintain riparian area composition, structure, and function in localized areas of the South Fork Salmon River drainage by improving riparian vegetation and hydrologic function through decommissioning or obliterating roads within riparian areas and returning road surfaces, cuts, and fills to productivity.
	Objective	1238	Reduce impacts to riparian areas from recreation sites or uses. Identify recreational campsites or parking areas that are contributing unacceptable levels of accelerated sediment, compaction, or vegetation loss. Rehabilitate, relocate, or harden sites where needed to reduce impacts.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	1239	Cooperate with Valley County and other entities to reduce sedimentation to fish habitat along the McCall-to-Yellow Pine Road.
	Objective	1240	Inventory existing unclassified roads within the management area to identify watershed improvement opportunities.
	Guideline	1241	Collaborate closely with the interested Tribes on all activities that could potentially affect fish habitat in the South Fork drainage.
Vegetation	Objective	1242	Use a combination of prescribed and wildland fire and mechanical treatments to restore or maintain vegetative composition and structure, and to reduce fuel loadings.
Botanical Resources	Objective	1243	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including Cascade reedgrass, giant helleborine orchid, short-styled tofieldia, wolf's current, and Kellogg's bitterroot to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Objective	1244	Emphasize reducing spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed, and other non-native species within rare plant known and potential habitat.
Non-native Plants	Objective	1245	To reduce impacts on native plants and other resources, eradicate or control infestations of spotted knapweed and rush skeletonweed. Control density and size of Canada thistle, St. Johnswort, and yellow toadflax populations.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	1246	Increase flammulated owl habitat and potential white-headed woodpecker habitat by managing ponderosa pine stands within the Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine and Dry Grand Fir vegetation groups toward the desired ranges of size classes, canopy closures, species composition, snags, and coarse woody debris, as described in Appendix A.
	Guideline	1247	An increase in the flammulated owl and potential white-headed woodpecker habitat may be achieved by the following methods: a) Reducing tree densities and ladder fuels under and around existing large ponderosa trees and snags to reduce the risk of tree-replacing fire and to restore more open canopy conditions. b) Managing the firewood program to retain large-diameter ponderosa pine and large snags of other species through signing, public education, size restriction, area closures, or other appropriate methods.
Recreation Resources	Objective	1248	To improve recreation access and opportunities, resolve issues with easements where trails cross private lands that limit, or could limit, public use
	Objective	1249	Establish and enforce a camping buffer/closure to maintain or restore sensitive backcountry areas, particularly around lakeshores.
	Objective	1250	Provide designated routes for motorized (ATV and motorcycle) use and emphasize loop opportunities. Provide for non-motorized uses as well, and consider separation of uses where user experience could be enhanced. Focus trail management and maintenance on improving the user's experience and correcting resource damage.
	Objective	1251	Establish a trailhead and install Kiosk for Forest Trails 121, 120, and 284; and provide information appropriate to the level of trail use to enhance trail access and visitor information opportunities.
	Objective	1252	Replace existing toilet with a barrier-free design toilet at Shiefer Campground to make this facility more accessible to all potential users.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description														
Recreation Resources	Objective	1253	Establish trailhead and install kiosk for Forest Trail 129 to enhance trail access and visitor information opportunities.														
	Objective	1254	Install potable water at Shiefer Campground to improve recreation experiences.														
	Objective	1255	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from recreation and trail use in the Jeanot-Rock, Krassel-Indian, and West Fork Buckhorn Creek subwatersheds. Methods to be considered include annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.														
	Objective	1256	Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy: <table border="1" data-bbox="699 688 1406 869" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <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>55%</td> <td>59%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td> <td>29%</td> <td>37%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Natural</td> <td>16%</td> <td>4%</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	55%	59%	Semi-Primitive Motorized	29%	37%	Roaded Natural	16%	4%
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Guideline	1257	Consider Buckhorn, Camp Creek, Four Mile, Ponderosa, Poverty Flat, and Big Creek Campgrounds as high priority areas for noxious weed inspection, eradication, and prevention. Noxious weed detection, management, and prevention should be practiced and promoted at these facilities on an annual basis.															
Scenic Environment	Objective	1258	Maintain the large, open ponderosa pine stands along the South Fork Salmon River Road to maintain a natural-appearing and scenic setting for visitors traveling through the Forest.														
Cultural Resources	Objective	1259	Prepare management plans for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places—including Hays Station Historic Administrative Site and China Mountain Celedon Terraced Gardens (PY-578), Chi Sandra Terraced Gardens (PY-776), Ah Toy’s Terraced Gardens (PY-620), and Chinese Trail (PY-794)—to meet federal requirements for management of historic properties.														
	Objective	1260	Maintain fences and markers at burial sites—including Hamilton Burial (PY-246), Reed Burials (PY-336), Deadman Bar (PY-381), Bill Darling (PY-459), Carrey Twins (PY-1164), Man and Girl Burial (PY-1161), Jack Shiefer (PY-1160), Hackett Cemetery (PY-632), Smith Ranch (PY-612), and Elk Creek Cemetery (PY-630)—to meet state and federal legal requirements for protection of historic properties.														
	Objective	1261	Conduct cultural resource inventories of selected unsurveyed areas within the South Fork Salmon River to meet federal requirements for identification of historic properties.														
Timberland Resources	Objective	1262	Manage existing plantations to meet desired vegetation conditions.														

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Fire Management	Objective	1263	Identify areas appropriate for Wildland Fire Use, emphasizing Inventoried Roadless Areas. Use wildland fire to restore or maintain vegetative desired conditions and to reduce fuel loadings.
	Objective	1264	Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments within and adjacent to wildland-urban interface areas and Forest Service administrative sites to reduce wildfire hazards. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans for wildland-urban interface in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.
	Objective	1265	Coordinate and emphasize fire education and prevention programs with private landowners to help reduce wildfire hazards and risks within wildland-urban interface areas. Work with landowners to increase defensible space around structures.
	Guideline	1266	Coordinate with the Boise NF to develop compatible wildland fire suppression and wildland fire use strategies.
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	1267	Complete site plans for Nick Peak, Miners Peak, and Elk Summit communications sites to meet agency policy requirements and avoid potential use conflicts.
	Objective	1268	Pursue opportunities to acquire Reed Ranch and Davis Ranch so that Forest management actions can reduce current impacts to water quality and fish habitat.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1269	Maintain existing facilities at Pilot Peak Lookout and at South Fork Guard Station for crew quarters.
	Standard	1270	<p>Do not reopen classified roads in Level 1 maintenance status or Level 2 roads that have become impassable 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, reopening these roads for use 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 already in a degraded condition, reopening these roads 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>Where reopening these roads cannot meet these constraints, consider decommissioning. An exception to this standard is where reopening Level 1 or 2 classified roads 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>
	Standard	1271	New roads shall not be built except to replace existing roads in RCAs or directly repair human-caused damage to TEPC fish habitat in streams unless it can be demonstrated through the project-level NEPA analysis and related Biological Assessment that 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.