



Forest Service

Pacific  
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Region

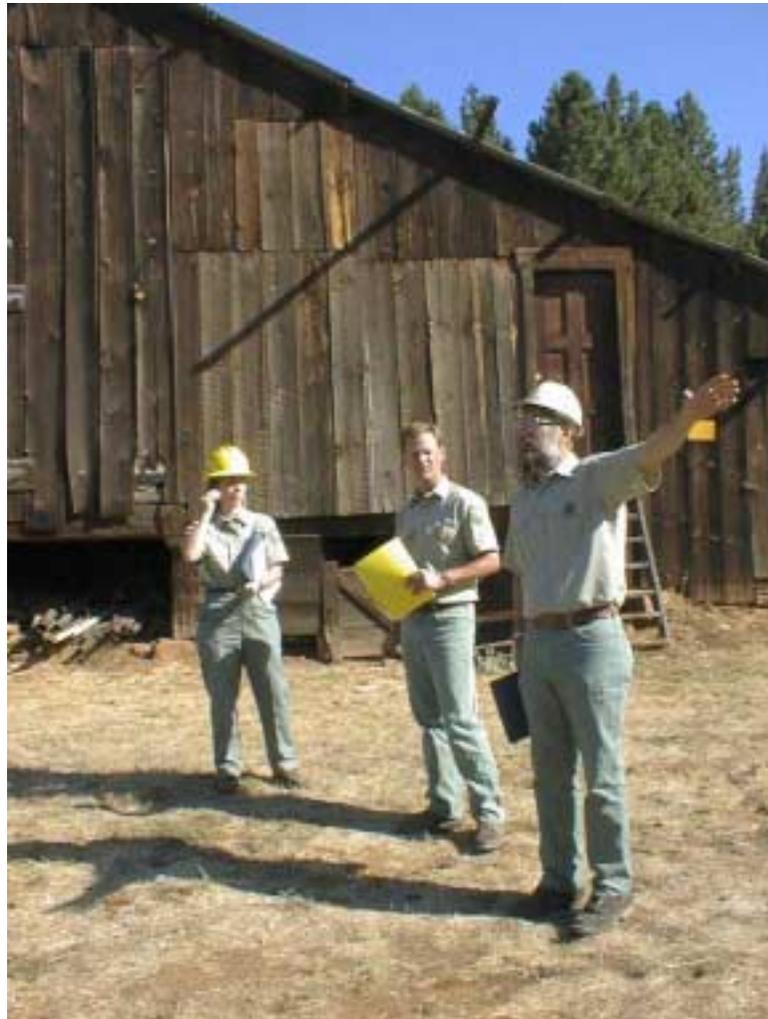
Stanislaus  
National Forest

# September 2000

## Special Area

### Standards and Guidelines Review

September 2000



Jennie Haas (left) and Steve Marsh (center) look on as Groveland District Ranger, John Swanson, explains the historic significance of the Jordan Creek Barn. (USDA Forest Service Photo)

**File Code:** 1920-2-3

**Date:** November 28, 2000

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to announce completion of the September 2000 Special Area Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) Review report. The report documents the results of Forest Leadership Team (FLT) evaluation of Special Area S&Gs.

I support the FLT's findings. Full implementation of their recommendations depends on adequate funding. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and regulations apply to any subsequent site-specific projects or Forest Plan Amendments. Accordingly, in the future the Forest will:

1. Improve application of existing Cultural Resource Direction:
  - Complete Forest Historic Preservation Plan.
  - Develop Forest strategy to identify and prioritize treatments for historic structures.
  - Address health and safety issues before allowing use of the Jawbone Station.
  - Provide confidential SIA information to line officers.
  
2. Improve application of existing Wild and Scenic River Direction:
  - Increase Forest Service presence at the Merals Pool launch through signing, patrols and volunteers.
  - Consider allowing some launching at Lumsden Bridge, on a trail basis, to evaluate the affects on campers and fishermen.

The September 2000 Special Area S&Gs Review is available by request. Call, write, or stop by the Forest Supervisor's Office for copies. The report is also available on the Forest's website (<http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/stanislaus/mgmt/mereport>).

Comments received on this report will be considered in preparing future reports. Please submit comments, or any written requests for the documents to:

Stanislaus National Forest  
Attn: **Monitoring**  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Sincerely,



BEN L. DEL VILLAR  
Forest Supervisor



# September 2000 Special Area

## Standards and Guidelines Review

### 1. Introduction

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The Regional Forester approved the Stanislaus National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on October 28, 1991 (USDA 1991). Chapter V of the Forest Plan identifies a need for program and activity reviews to insure consistent use of Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) to improve the reliability of subsequent evaluations. Evaluation is the analysis and interpretation of monitoring data to determine whether changes in the Forest Plan, or in project implementation are necessary. Monitoring and evaluation are critical elements ensuring that the Forest Plan remains a dynamic and responsible tool for managing the Forest's land and resources in a changing social and economic climate.

This report documents the results of an September 2000 Stanislaus National Forest FLT review of Special Area S&Gs.

### 2. Programs and Activities Reviewed

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The FLT conducted this review on the Groveland Ranger District, from September 20-21, 2000. Prior to the field trip, the FLT discussed selected S&Gs from the 1991 Forest Plan (USDA 1991) and from the 1988 Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Management Plan (USDA 1988). They later reviewed specific programs and activities related to Special Areas, comparing conditions to the selected S&Gs. They reviewed these results in an integrated fashion to develop the recommendations shown in this report. Table 1 (see Action Plan) lists the specific actions needed to implement these recommendations.

In order to draw conclusions and make recommendations, the FLT identified the following objective.

#### Objective

- Determine adherence to Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) to insure consistent use of S&Gs and improve the reliability of subsequent monitoring and evaluation.

## 2.1 Jordan Creek Barn and Starthistle Prescribed Burn

### **Evaluation**

What actions are needed to manage historic structures? Will those actions (or no action) meet the selected S&Gs? Do past actions meet the selected S&Gs?

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Cultural Resource Enhancement and Interpretation (2-C)
- Developed Recreation Site Management, Private Sector (10-E)
- Interpretive Services Management (10-M)

### Results

#### **Jordan Creek Barn**

- The Jordan Creek Barn is the oldest structure on the Stanislaus National Forest.
- Although the specific details are not clear at this time, the structure is considered unsafe for public access.
- A recently updated Forest Order closes the barn area to public entry.
- Caretaker is located on-site.
- Current management is "benign neglect".

#### **Starthistle Prescribed Burn**

- Prescribed burning reduced Starthistle from over 100 stems per square foot to less than 1 stem per square foot.

### Conclusions

#### **Jordan Creek Barn**

- In order to assess needs and recommend treatments, a professional structural evaluation is needed.
- Facility maintenance funding level only addresses health and safety issues of occupied buildings.
- Alternative treatments of historic structures will meet the selected S&Gs.

#### **Starthistle Prescribed Burn**

- Starthistle prescribed burn meets the selected S&Gs.

### Recommendations

#### **Jordan Creek Barn**

- Complete Forest Historic Preservation Plan.
- Develop Forest strategy to identify and prioritize treatments for historic structures.

#### **Starthistle Prescribed Burn**

- Continue current management.

## 2.2 Bower Cave

### **Evaluation**

Do past management actions meet the selected S&Gs? Does SIA management protect W&S River values of the North Fork Merced?

### **W&S River Values**

- **Geologic:** Bower Cave is part of an unusual limestone formation, near the North Fork Merced. The near vertical opening of the cave is about 90 feet wide. The cave has been described as a grotto, open to the sky and containing water. Its interior has expanses of stalagmites and other limestone cave features. Due to the geologic makeup of the Sierra, limestone formations are quite unusual and large limestone caves are rare.
- **Historic/Cultural:** The Me-Wuk of the central Sierra, and possibly their predecessors, believed Bower Cave to be sacred. Beginning in the mid-1800s and continuing until the turn of the century, the cave (then called Marble Springs Cave) was a popular tourist attraction.

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation (2-A)
- Cultural Resource Protection (2-B)
- SIA Management (14-D)
- Cave Resources Planning and Management (14-F)
- Alternate Management (19-D)

### **Results**

- Bower Cave location is fenced and permits are required for entry into the cave area.
- SIA boundary is not posted.
- Forest Plan confidential SIA information is not readily available to line officers.
- A 1999 Passport in Time project revealed much new information about Bower Cave's historic past.
- Bower Cave was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.
- The Forest Service, Mariposa American Indian Council and Mariposa County have an agreement for designing appropriate use of the Jordan Creek/Bower Cave area.

### **Conclusions**

- Past management actions meet the selected S&Gs.
- Posting SIA boundaries is not necessary in cases where management is similar on both sides of the boundary.
- Line officers need confidential SIA information to render informed decisions.
- SIA management protects W&S River values of the North Fork Merced.

### **Recommendations**

- Provide confidential SIA information to line officers.

## 2.3 Kirkwood Trailhead

### **Evaluation**

Does the trailhead project meet the Tuolumne River Management Direction?

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Tuolumne River Management Direction

### Results

- Trailhead is located outside the Wild and Scenic River corridor boundary.
- Trailhead and trail help provide a diversity of river and land-based recreation opportunities.

### Conclusions

- The trailhead project meets the Tuolumne River Management Direction.

### Recommendations

- Continue current management.

## 2.4 Jawbone Falls

### **Evaluation**

Does proposed SIA designation meet the selected S&Gs?

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation (2-A)
- Cultural Resource Protection (2-B)
- Cultural Resource Enhancement and Interpretation (2-C)
- SIA Management (14-D)

### Results

- Environmental Assessment (EA) and Proposed Forest Plan Amendment for Jawbone Falls SIA designation are available for public comment through October 6, 2000 with a decision expected in November 2000.

### Conclusions

- Proposed SIA designation meets the selected S&Gs.

### Recommendations

- Continue current management.

## 2.5 Femmons Meadow

### **Evaluation**

Do range activities meet selected S&Gs?

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Allotment Management (9-A)
- Range Improvements – Nonstructural (9-B)
- Range Improvements – Structural (9-C)
- Grazing Permit Administration (9-D)

### Results

- The meadow contains naturally low-growing grass species.
- Not clear whether grazing or vehicles cause soil compaction.

### Conclusions

- Range activities meet selected S&Gs.

### Recommendations

- Continue current management.

## 2.6 Jawbone Station

### **Evaluation**

What actions are needed to manage historic structures? Will those actions (or no action) meet the selected S&Gs?

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Cultural Resource Protection (2-B)
- Cultural Resource Enhancement and Interpretation (2-C)

### Results

- The Jawbone Station is used twice a year in conjunction with deer counts.
- Although the specific details are not clear at this time, the structure is considered unsafe for public access.
- Current management is “benign neglect”.

### Conclusions

- In order to assess needs and recommend treatments, a professional structural evaluation is needed.
- Facility maintenance funding level only addresses health and safety issues of occupied buildings.
- Alternative treatments of historic structures will meet the selected S&Gs.

### Recommendations

- Address health and safety issues before allowing use of the station.
- Complete Forest Historic Preservation Plan.
- Develop Forest strategy to identify and prioritize treatments for historic structures.

## 2.7 Merals Pool Launch

### **Evaluation**

Does Wild and Scenic River management, including outfitter/guide use, meet the selected S&Gs and Tuolumne River Management Direction?

### **Selected S&Gs**

- Wild and Scenic River Management (19-B)
- Tuolumne River Management Direction

### **Results**

- Forest Service presence at the launch has decreased to a point where it is almost non-existent.
- Test launching at Lumsden Bridge has not occurred.

### **Conclusions**

- Wild and Scenic River management, in the Lumsden Management Area, does not meet the following Tuolumne River Management Direction:
  - Provide users access to Forest Service personnel by maintaining a high level of presence in this area.
  - Conduct some launching at Lumsden Bridge, on a trial basis, to evaluate the affects on campers and fishermen.
- Wild and Scenic River management, including outfitter/guide use, meets the remaining S&Gs and Tuolumne River Management Direction.

### **Recommendations**

- Increase Forest Service presence at the launch through signing, patrols and volunteers.
- Consider allowing some launching at Lumsden Bridge, on a trial basis, to evaluate the affects on campers and fishermen.

## 3. Action Plan

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The FLT developed a schedule to identify the actions needed for implementing their recommendations (see Programs and Activities Reviewed). This is a cumulative action plan that incorporates the findings of the previous S&G reviews and supersedes their action plans (USDA 1998a, USDA 1998b and USDA 1999). Full implementation depends on adequate funding. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and regulations apply to any subsequent site-specific projects or Forest Plan Amendments.

Table 1: **Action Plan**; Forest Leadership Team (FLT) and Forest Planning Interdisciplinary Team (IDT); Stanislaus National Forest.

Action	Who	When
<p><b>Complete Forest Plan Review, considering needs to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify incompatible Forest Plan S&amp;Gs</li> <li>▪ Validate Forest Plan fire matrix S&amp;G</li> <li>▪ Update snag retention guidelines</li> <li>▪ Develop S&amp;Gs for fire suppression and BAER treatment of roadside hazard trees</li> <li>▪ Update Forest Plan to reflect current conditions</li> <li>▪ Fully integrate fire ecology into the Forest Plan</li> <li>▪ Set general direction for overall priorities (i.e. urban interface, old growth, plantations) for fuels management projects</li> <li>▪ Adjust Forest Plan developed recreation sites to include entire designated "Recreation Areas"</li> </ul>	IDT and FLT	9/30/2002
<p><b>Coordinate Forest Plan effectiveness and NEPA implementation monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Incorporate monitoring into Program of Work</li> <li>▪ Prioritize and collect Emigrant monitoring information</li> <li>▪ Conduct Forest Plan S&amp;Gs reviews</li> <li>▪ Schedule another Emigrant Wilderness S&amp;Gs review</li> <li>▪ Involve Regional Office in future S&amp;Gs reviews</li> </ul>	<p>FLT Summit District Ranger</p> <p>FLT Forest Supervisor</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>9/30/2002</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p><b>Provide clear written direction (decisions) during the NEPA process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Utilize the 1900-2 training</li> <li>▪ Rate snags per acre on a landscape basis</li> <li>▪ Emphasize long-term snag retention</li> <li>▪ Establish requirements for post fire monitoring of suppression and BAER treatments</li> </ul>	FLT	On-going
<p><b>Complete implementation of the Sourgrass recreation area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update Sourgrass site plan</li> <li>▪ Designate Sourgrass area as a "Recreation Area"</li> <li>▪ Retain pool level above bridge if environmentally and economically feasible</li> <li>▪ Construct shaded fuelbreaks in and around Sourgrass recreation area</li> </ul>	<p>Public Service Forest Supervisor</p> <p>Public Service Calaveras District Ranger</p>	<p>9/30/2002</p> <p>9/30/2002</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>9/30/2002</p>
<p><b>Improve application of existing Wilderness Direction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Designate a Forest Wilderness Coordinator</li> <li>▪ Advise users with trail pre-cautions and upgrade primary trails to standards as funding allows</li> <li>▪ Favor the use of native materials when installing signs, fences and other structures within Wilderness</li> <li>▪ Incorporate Wilderness information into the Forest Interpretive and Environmental Education Programs</li> <li>▪ Emphasize unique cultural/historic Wilderness features through the Heritage Resource Program</li> </ul>	<p>FLT Public Service</p> <p>District Rangers</p> <p>FLT Public Service</p>	<p>Done</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>

Table 1: **Action Plan**; continued.

Action	Who	When
<b>Improve application of existing Cultural Resource Direction</b>		
▪ Complete Forest Historic Preservation Plan.	Public Service	9/30/2002
▪ Develop Forest strategy to identify and prioritize treatments for historic structures.	FLT	9/30/2002
▪ Address health and safety issues before allowing use of the Jawbone Station.	Groveland District Ranger	On-going
▪ Provide confidential SIA information to line officers.	Public Service	Done
<b>Improve application of existing Wild and Scenic River Direction</b>		
▪ Increase Forest Service presence at the Merals Pool launch through signing, patrols and volunteers.	Groveland District Ranger	On-going
▪ Consider allowing some launching at Lumsden Bridge, on a trail basis, to evaluate the affects on campers and fishermen.	Groveland District Ranger	9/30/2001

= Action items added to the cumulative Action Plan since the previous review.

## 4. Participants

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### Forest Leadership Team

Karen Caldwell, Summit District Ranger  
 John Maschi, Acting Public Affairs Officer  
 Kathy Moskowitz, Public Service Program Area Leader  
 Joe Sherlock, Acting Mi-Wok District Ranger  
 John Swanson, Groveland District Ranger  
 Sue Warren, Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor  
 Dan Young, Acting Resource Management Program Area Leader

### Support Staff

Brenda Ehmann, Groveland Ranger District Public Service Program Area Leader  
 Jennie Haas, Groveland Ranger District Botanist  
 Tom James, Groveland Ranger District Resource Protection Program Area Leader  
 Steve Marsh, Groveland Ranger District Archaeologist  
 John Schmechel, Groveland Ranger District Silviculturist  
 Denise Van Keuren, Range Conservationist  
 Kevin Williams, Groveland Ranger District Wildlife Biologist

### Guests

Steve Hayes, Director, Mariposa County Visitors Bureau  
 Steve Welch, ARTA (rafting outfitter)

## 5. Public Notification

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This report is available by request. The Forest will inform the public of its availability by news release; and, posting on the Forest's Internet site (<http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/stanislaus/mgmt/mereport>). Comments received on this report will be considered in preparing future reports. Please submit comments to:

Stanislaus National Forest  
**Attn: Monitoring**  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

## 6. References

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- USDA Forest Service. 1988. Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Management Plan. Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, CA.
- USDA Forest Service. 1991. Stanislaus National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, EIS, Forest Plan and Record of Decision. Pacific Southwest Region; San Francisco, CA.
- USDA Forest Service. 1998. Emigrant Wilderness Management Direction Environmental Impact Statement, Forest Plan Amendment and Record of Decision. Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, CA.
- USDA Forest Service. 1998a. June 1998 Fire Salvage Standards and Guidelines Review. Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, CA.
- USDA Forest Service. 1998b. September 1998 Recreation Standards and Guidelines Review. Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, CA.
- USDA Forest Service. 1999. August 1999 Wilderness Standards and Guidelines Review. Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, CA.

## 7. Photos

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Bower Cave



Bower Cave



Jawbone Falls Proposed SIA



Jawbone Falls Proposed SIA



Jordan Creek Barn



Jordan Creek Barn Pasture



Merals Launch



## 8. Appendix

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### Selected Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines

#### Stanislaus National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA 1991)

##### **Cultural Resources**

##### **Standards and Guidelines**

Cultural Resource  
Inventory and  
Evaluation (2-A)

Field survey coverage intensity shall be determined according to the Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines on Archaeology and Historic Preservation and California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Survey Guidelines.

Follow site-recording methods established by the California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Site Record Handbook.

Follow the standards for inventory reports in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines on Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

Perform controlled sample surveys in designated Wilderness areas.

Consult with members of the potentially affected local Native American community to identify specific locations and issues of concern.

Use appropriate Programmatic Agreements and Treatment Plans whenever possible.

Apply the National Register of Historic Places criteria in 36 CFR 60 and regulations in 36 CFR 63 to determine the eligibility of a cultural property to the National Register.

Use FSM 2361, FSM 1680, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's "Treatment of Archaeological Properties: A Handbook", and the traditional values of local Miwok, Washo and Paiute Indian communities as guidelines for evaluating significance.

Apply the Criteria of Effect in 36 CFR 800, and follow the guidelines in FSM 2361 for determining the effect of an undertaking.

Cultural Resource  
Protection (2-B)

Use the guidelines in FSM 2361 and FSM 1680 for developing and implementing protective measures. Comply with 36 CFR 800 regulations and follow the guidelines in 36 CFR 66, FSM 2361, and the 13 principles in the "Treatment of Archaeological Properties" Handbook (ACHP).

Conduct compliance inspections on all special use permits containing cultural resource stipulations or conditions.

Protect documents, photographs and other information relevant to the administrative, social and contextual history of the Forest for research and public use.

Utilize law enforcement patrols to help prevent site vandalism and conduct law enforcement investigations when cultural resources are impacted using ARPA, 36 CFR 261.9, and other applicable laws and regulations.

Cultural Resource  
Enhancement and

Work with Interpretive Services to develop high quality brochures, publications and/or audio-visual presentations. Work with cooperators to

Interpretation (2-C)      develop high quality interpretive, stabilization, and/or restoration projects.

Comply with 36 CFR 800 regulations and follow the guidelines in 36 CFR 66. FSM 2361 and the 13 principles in the "Treatment of Archaeological Properties" Handbook (ACHP).

Issue permits under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 96-95) for non-Federal archaeological research projects on the Forest.

Encourage non-Federal research projects on the Forest.

Encourage the Sierra Mi-wok, Washo, and Mono Lake Paiute to contribute to the Forest's cultural resource management activities, to enhance public understanding of their traditional and contemporary cultures.

**Range**

**Standards and Guidelines**

Allotment  
Management (9-A)

Improve ecological condition of rangelands, where currently unsatisfactory, through improved management, and structural and non-structural improvements.

Develop range resources to their reasonably attainable potential and manage them on a sustained yield basis. Manage grazed lands to achieve a stable or upward vegetative trend, except in specified areas of transitory range. Use management strategies that protect the soil and vegetative resources and other resources in a cost effective manner. Consider all vegetation dependent uses when developing allotment management plans.

Revise range allotment management plans to be consistent with law, regulations, Executive Orders, Forest Service direction and Forest Standards and Guidelines, by 1997. Revise and develop allotment management plans in consultation with all involved parties, including permittees, State or other agencies, and any other involved entities.

Manage commercial and recreational livestock use so that fish, wildlife and riparian needs are considered. (Refer to Fish and Wildlife Standards and Guidelines.)

On any allotment or unit of allotment, grazing management will be based on the vegetative type or soil type contained which is most susceptible to damage through improper grazing management. Examples: a riparian drainage through annual grassland; meadows within transitory range. Allowable use standards will be established in the allotment management plans and annual operating plans for each unit of each allotment. The standards will be based on Regional standards in R5 FSH 2209.21.

Priority will be given to range improvement on allotments with a high percentage of primary rangeland in unsatisfactory condition, or high conflicts between livestock grazing and other resources and uses.

On allotments where discontinuous grazing systems are not in effect, adjust permitted Animal Unit Months to achieve allowable use on the primary range.

Transportation systems in established range allotments will include fences and, cattle guards where new roads open up natural livestock barriers.

Reduce or eliminate livestock grazing from ranges in unsatisfactory range condition, which cannot be improved through better management or treatment at the current level of grazing.

Perennial Range - Includes meadows, perennial grassland, sagebrush, broadleaf and riparian vegetative types. When grazing management is based on perennial range the following apply:

- a. On allotments or pastures under intensive management provide rest or deferment during the growing season at least every third year.
- b. On allotments under intensive management, as part of an approved discontinuous grazing system, allow grazing use to exceed normal allowable use (as defined in R5 FSH 2209.21) up to one year out of two.
- c. Under extensive or maintenance management where continuous season-long grazing is allowed, remove livestock when grazing reaches the allowable use level specified for the designated key areas.
- d. Under all management strategies base on-dates for livestock on the phenological development of key forage or indicator species. Refer to R5 FSH 2209.21 for range readiness standards or use comparable criteria for species not listed. One exception is where an intensive management system limits early grazing to that which the range can withstand.
- e. When primary range occurs within riparian areas:
  1. Allowable herbaceous forage utilization levels will be set according to Regional methods at standards that will contribute to the achievement of good to excellent vegetative and soil conditions (See FSH 2209.21, Range Analysis Handbook).
  2. Retain 50% of the available annual growth of all woody riparian species (within 4-1/2 feet of the ground).

Annual Range - Includes any 8segment of the California annual grassland either in large pure types or small types interspersed with shrubs and hardwoods. When management is based on this type the following apply:

- a. Determine livestock on-dates based on soil moisture conditions and expected readiness date on associated perennial range to which the livestock are moved.

Transitory Range - Includes all forage available following logging or fire, whether natural or seeded, where there is no intention of permanently managing the type for forage production because tree or shrub canopies will grow to severely limit forage production. When management is based on transitory range the following apply:

- a. Maximize forage utilization consistent with other resource values. Utilization may exceed normal range allowable use standards, but soils, watershed, riparian, wildlife or recreation considerations may modify use.
- b. Initiate grazing use to complement silvicultural needs. Heavy grazing can help control grass and shrubs and prevent them from dominating the site.
- c. Where a fire or other cause has allowed a new stand of deerbrush

(*Ceanothus integerrimus*) to become established, avoid heavy use on the plants until their third year. Then heavy grazing will control without killing them for their effective live of 20 to 30 years.

Range  
Improvements –  
Nonstructural (9-B)

Plan non-structural range improvements using interdisciplinary input.

Range  
Improvements -  
Structural (9-C)

Construct all structural improvement to Regional standards. See FSH 2209.22 R5 and the 1988 USDA publication "Fences" for the standards.

Grazing Permit  
Administration (9-D)

Monitor at least 85 percent of allotments yearly to determine grazing use levels and condition of range facilities.

Range Studies (9-E)

Monitor ecological condition and trend using Regionally established methods and standards (R5 FSH 2209.21) on a ten-year schedule.

## Recreation

## Standards and Guidelines

Developed  
Recreation Site  
Management, Private  
Sector (10-E)

Issue a prospectus after assessment indicates that operation or construction of facilities is best served by private sector management.

*Applies Only Within  
Management Area 5  
Special Interest Areas*

Interpretive Services  
Management (10-M)

Prepare maps, brochures, signs and other interpretive devices to explain special features and reduce area damage.

*Applies Only Within  
Management Area 5  
Special Interest Areas*

## Special Areas

## Standards and Guidelines

SIA Management  
(14-D)

Establish and post accurate boundaries for protection and maintenance of each area.

*Applies Only Within  
Management Area 5  
Special Interest Areas*

Cave Resources  
Planning and  
Management (14-F)

Incorporate significant caves, when identified, by amendment into the Forest Plan as a Forest Cave Management Plan. This will take the form of provisions to protect and maintain significant cave resources. The Forest Cave Management Plan will be written in conjunction with the National Speleological Society and other interested publics.

Protect caves from vandalism by physical protection, cooperative efforts with user groups, signing, or other activities associated with cave resources protection developed in the Forest Cave Management Plan.

Conduct law enforcement investigations when cave resources are impacted, using 36 CFR 290 and other applicable laws and regulations.

## W&S Rivers

## Standards and Guidelines

Wild and Scenic  
River Management  
(19-B)

No development of hydroelectric power facilities would be permitted for (1) projects exempted from licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or (2) projects on rivers designated through sections 2, 3 and 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Forest Service will

*Applies Only Within*

Stanislaus  
National Forest

*Management Area 2  
Wild And Scenic Rivers and  
Proposed Wild And Scenic  
Rivers*

recommend to FERC that a project on a river found eligible and suitable for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System should not be licensed because it is inconsistent with the purposes for which the National Forest was created or acquired and, if necessary, impose conditions on any license issued for a project on that river that fully protect its outstandingly remarkable characteristics and free-flowing nature.

Use permits and/or field observations to collect visitor data. Control use as follows: When LAC standards are exceeded for a site or area, implement appropriate management actions to remedy the situation.

Close, rotate, or rehabilitate campsites to allow for site recovery. Require parties with recreation stock to carry feed when conditions warrant. Restrict stock use from steep and rocky terrain. Grant permits to collect native plants only when needed to meet administrative or research needs.

Limit commercial permits for outfitter guides to activities that meet specific public needs and cannot be provided outside wild and Scenic River areas. Do not issue permits for training activities or recreation events. The above Standards and Guidelines are consistent with and will be used in conjunction with the management plans for each Wild and Scenic River.

Alternate  
Management (19-D)

*Applies Only Within  
Management Area 5  
Special Interest Areas*

Protect Wild and Scenic River values of eligible river segments proposed for SIA Alternate Management (See Appendix E (EIS) Wild and Scenic River Study). Manage to SIA guidelines, portions of the following segments that are within SIAs: North Fork Merced, Eagle Creek, Long Valley Creek, and Bourland Creek.

## Selected Tuolumne River Management Direction Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Management Plan (USDA 1988)

- Maintain a diversity of river and land-based recreation opportunities.
- Manage livestock in transit to avoid impacts on the values for which the Tuolumne was included in the National Wild and Scenic River System.
- Manage vegetation to protect and enhance Wild and Scenic River values, placing special emphasis on protecting streamside vegetation.
- Provide a level of maintenance and safety improvements on the Lumsden Road appropriate to recreation use.
- Provide information, education and access to Forest Service personnel at the Groveland District Office.
- Provide users access to Forest Service personnel by maintaining a periodic presence in the corridor and on the river.
- Treat all users fairly whether it be in terms of implementing new management practices, following regulations and procedures, having a chance to float the river or having a chance to use the public land in the corridor for other recreational purposes.
- Permit special uses of the National Forest where public needs have been demonstrated and where such uses conform to management direction. Recognize the value of permitted outfitters providing a public service and improve management by encouraging their participation as barometers of conditions, evaluators of standards and enhancers of river safety.

### Lumsden Management Area

This management area includes Lumsden Bridge and extends, downstream for two miles, to Merals Pool. Access to this area is provided by Lumsden Road and some unmarked foot trails. Developed recreation is popular in this area, including Lumsden Bridge, South Fork and Lumsden Campgrounds. Some dispersed recreation occurs and both developed and dispersed RN recreation opportunities will be available. Improvements in this area will focus on developed sites.

- Provide users access to Forest Service personnel by maintaining a high level of presence in this area.
- Treat whitewater boating between Lumsden Bridge and Merals Pool as part of the Upper Run and monitor use according to standards for Management Area B.
- Allow whitewater launching at South Fork Bridge. Conduct some launching at Lumsden Bridge, on a trail basis, to evaluate the affects on campers and fishermen.