APPENDIX C

ROADLESS AREA EVALUATION

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Nez Perce National Forest presently contains parts of three wildernesses and all of another one, as displayed in Table C-1. The Gospel-Hump Wilderness is completely within the Forest boundaries. Administration of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is shared with three other Forests, and five other Forests contain parts of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Those parts of the Hells Canyon Wilderness within Nez Perce Forest boundaries are administered by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, as directed by the Chief of the Forest Service.

Table C-1
Classified Wilderness-Nez Perce National Forest (Acres)

Wilderness	Total Acreage	Nez Perce NF Acreage
Selway-Bitterroot	1,340,681	560,088
Gospel-Hump	200,464	200,464
Frank Church-River of No Return	2,361,767	105,736
Hells Canyon	194,132	59,900
Total	4,097,044	926,188

The larger cities within one day's drive of the Nez Perce National Forest are shown in Table C-2.

Table C-2
Regional Population Centers (Number of People)

City	1980 Population	City	1980 Population
Spokane	171,300	Moscow	16,513
Lewiston	27,986	Pullman	23,579
Missoula	33,388	Boise	102,451

Of course, the Forest's wildernesses and four rivers classified under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act are of national as well as regional significance, and visitors come to these areas from all parts of the world.

In addition to these classified areas, the Nez Perce National Forest contains 503,162 acres of inventoried roadless areas, all of which are eligible for wilderness classification. These areas have all been considered by Congress in the past; some of them have been considered more than once. Under the provisions of 36 CFR 219.17, all roadless areas on the Forest are again being evaluated and reconsidered for wilderness classification in the current Forest planning process.

Changes were made to the boundaries of two roadless areas between the Draft and Final EIS. The boundaries of the Gospel-Hump and Mallard roadless areas used in the Draft EIS excluded land that contained proposed timber sales and roads. These areas were never developed, so in response to public comments, the

original RARE II boundaries were used and the land analyzed for roadless and wilderness classification in the Final EIS.

Alternatives G and G1 were changed between the Draft and Final EIS with respect to the Silver Creek-Pilot Knob and Rackliff-Gedney roadless areas. In these two alternatives, 13,300 acres of Silver Creek-Pilot Knob will be managed without roads for high quality fisheries, wildlife, water quality, dispersed recreation, and protection of Native American religious values. Approximately 10,600 acres of Rackliff-Gedney (Nez Perce portion) will be managed for timber production with an emphasis on enhancing wildlife habitat. The remaining 44,900 acres will remain undeveloped.

This appendix contains supporting and site-specific information on individual Nez Perce National Forest roadless areas. It is intended to supplement the roadless area descriptions in Chapter III and the roadless area analysis in Chapters II and IV of the Environmental Impact Statement. Each roadless area is discussed as follows:

- An overview of the physical characteristics is given;
- Capability for wilderness is described;
- Resource potentials other than wilderness are listed;
- Need for the area in the National Wilderness System is discussed; and
- Alternatives and environmental consequences are displayed.

The first four discussions are straightforward and need little explanation. Some of the relationships between management decisions affecting the wilderness characteristics of roadless areas and Forest management prescription assignments are summarized here. A detailed discussion of management prescriptions can be found in Appendix B.

In Section E of each individual roadless area analysis in this appendix, a management emphasis table displays acreages for five possible management emphases. These are summaries of management prescriptions applied to roadless areas to meet various management objectives.

The wilderness emphasis excludes any kind of roaded development, and allows ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only. Timber management possibilities are foregone, but wilderness values are enhanced.

The roaded development emphasis is somewhat more complex. All timber prescriptions are included, along with deer-elk winter range prescriptions which allow timber harvest and road construction. Since specific prescriptions for visual quality objectives of retention and partial retention are applied only to areas scheduled for timber harvest in the FORPLAN computer model, these prescriptions are included, along with those for management of riparian areas and those for existing primary range.

Environmental effects of roaded development are shown in the main body of this document. Forestwide minimum management requirements for resource protection are met in each alternative, along with Forestwide mitigation standards. At

least 60 percent mitigation of predicted sediment resulting from road construction will be achieved, and roads will be subject to closures to mitigate effects on big-game habitat.

The portion of each roadless area assigned to roaded development prescriptions under this management emphasis depends on the capability of the lands within the area and the objectives of each alternative. These objectives make different lands available for roaded development in different alternatives; that is, lands where timber harvest may be feasible are assigned to prescriptions that preclude timber harvest and road construction in some alternatives in order to accomplish other objectives, such as maintenance of high quality fish and wildlife habitat and establishment of wilderness. Thus, future wilderness possibilities for each roadless area vary directly with the amount of roaded development in that area in each decade. The management emphasis table shows the extent, but not the location, of the roaded development.

In the unroaded management emphasis, existing roadless acreage is assigned to continued roadless management. Fish, wildlife, and dispersed recreation objectives are highlighted. No new roads are anticipated, but reconstruction of existing roads is permitted where these roads are necessary to meet overall multiple use objectives.

Minimum level management prescriptions are for the most part assigned to lands unsuitable for timber production and/or lands that are not needed or are not cost-efficient in meeting the goals of a particular alternative. These areas are small, usually not contiguous, and not mapped. Fish and wildlife objectives are not specifically addressed. Timber harvest may occur to accomplish objectives other than timber production, such as public safety, control of insect and disease epidemics, and salvage of fire-killed trees.

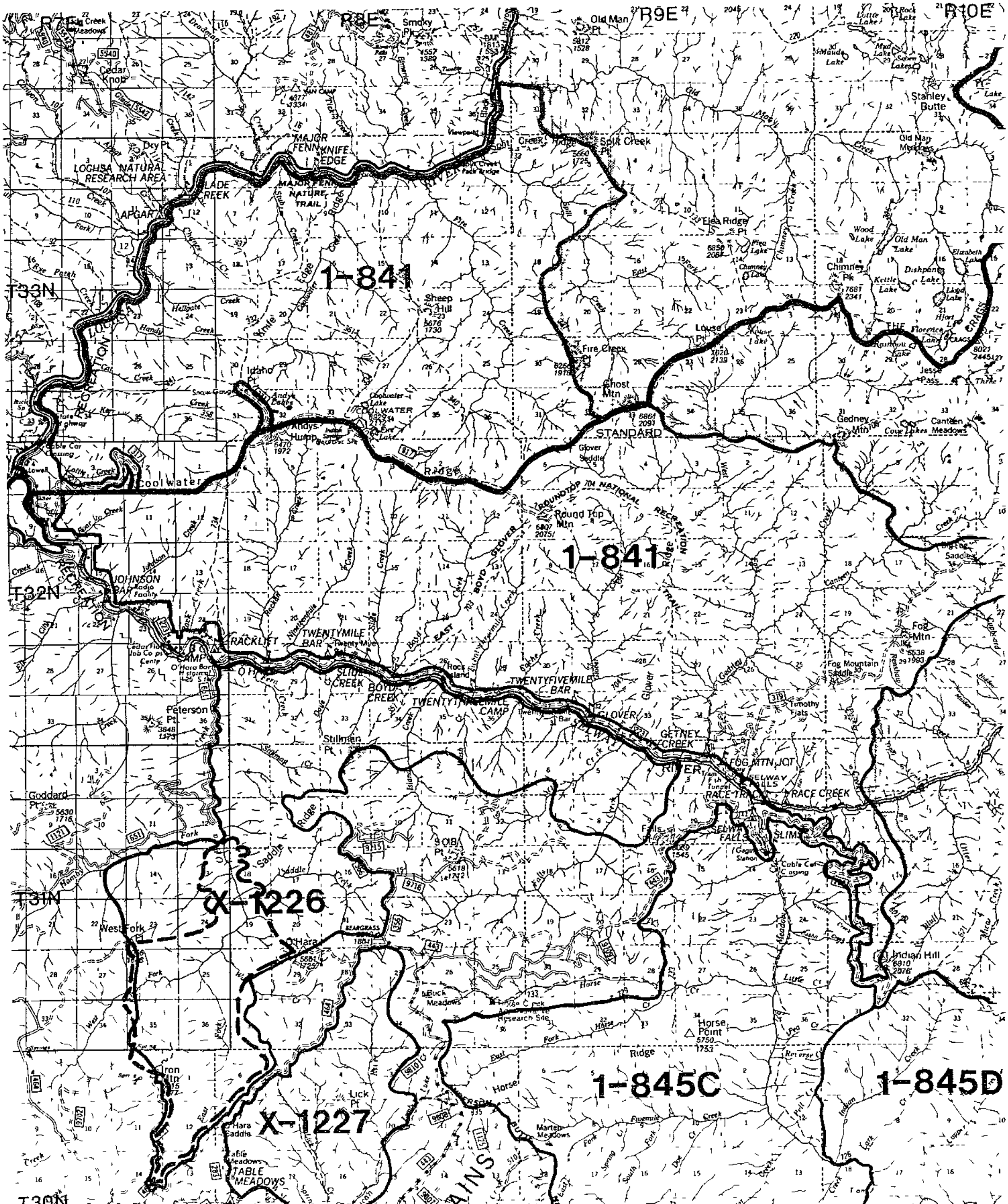
Road construction is permissible for the above objectives and in cases where roads are necessary to meet multiple use objectives on adjacent lands. Since roads may or may not be built, wilderness possibilities may or may not change.

Research Natural Area prescriptions exclude activities which directly or indirectly modify ecological processes. Logging is prohibited, and fire suppression is accomplished by manual means. In effect, wilderness characteristics are retained.

All roadless lands, regardless of acreage, which adjoin existing established wilderness are eligible for wilderness classification. Roadless lands which do not adjoin existing established wilderness must total 5,000 contiguous acres to be considered for wilderness. In the discussions that follow, any roadless area that has large acreages assigned to the roaded development management emphasis and less than 5,000 contiguous acres to unroaded management will be considered fully roaded after 50 years; however, unroaded acreage in any amount that adjoins an existing established wilderness can be added to that wilderness at any time.

II. ROADLESS AREAS

A detailed description and map of each Nez Perce National Forest roadless area follows.


R8E
R9E
R10E
T33N
T32N
T31N
T30N
1-841
1-841
1-845C
1-845D
X-1226
X-1227
LOCHSA NATURAL RESEARCH AREA
MAJOR FENN KNIFE EDGE
MAJOR FENN NATURE TRAIL
APGAR
Cedar Knob
Smoky Pk
Old Man Pt
Split Creek
Stanley Butte
Elea Ridge Pt
Sheep Hill
Chimney Pk
Louse Pt
Fire Creek Pt
Ghost Mtn
STANDARD
Idaho Pt
Andys Hump
COOLWATER
Coolwater
Ridge
Round Top Mtn
ROUNDTOP 704 NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL
Glover Saddle
Gedney Mtn
Canteen Meadows
JOHNSON BAR
RACKLIFF
TWENTYMILE BAR
SLIDE CREEK
BOYD CREEK
TWENTYFIVEMILE BAR
GLOVER
GEDNEY CREEK
Fog Mtn
Fog Mountain Saddle
Peterson Pt
Stillman Pt
Goddard Pt
FOG MTN JCT
SELWAY FALLS
RACE CREEK
RACE TRACK
SLIMS
Indian Hill
West Fork
O'Hara
BEARGRASS
Buck Meadows
Horse Point
Ridge
Lick Pt
O'Hara Saddle
TABLE MEADOWS
Marten Meadows
Green Ridge
Dent Pt
Ericson
Nugget
MOUNTAINS

ROADLESS AREA 1226 -- O'HARA-FALLS CREEK

25,326 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area contains all of the O'Hara Creek drainage and the southside breaks of the Selway River for about 10 miles upstream from the mouth of O'Hara Creek. The name of this area is somewhat misleading, since the major part of Falls Creek is no longer included in it.

The area is almost completely surrounded by roads. Principal access is by Road 651, Road 464, and Road 356.

Topography is fairly typical of the lower Selway country -- steep slopes, but not highly dissected. Elevations range from about 1,600 feet on the Selway River to 6,056 feet at West Fork Point and 6,185 feet at Iron Mountain. Vegetation over most of the area is heavy, but the country opens up near the top of Iron Mountain. The west side of O'Hara Creek is heavily timbered with mixed species. Cedar is common in the Creek bottom and lodgepole pine prevails on the ridge tops. On the east side of the area, Saddle Ridge has dense brushfields which are the result of past fires.

A walk up the trail along O'Hara Creek reveals a constantly changing water-course. Small clearings or meadows are found along the first few miles. Large, blackened cedar snags, the result of past fires, are also found in the area. From Saddle Creek on, the trail becomes difficult to find. The tread is almost gone and in some of the wet, shady draws, the ferns are often over the hiker's head. The middle section of the Creek cascades through a steep, rocky gorge, with waterfalls and pools. The canyon opens up in the upper section of the Creek where there are meadows and beaver ponds. If one attempts to walk up the West Fork from its confluence with the main Creek, it is necessary to climb over tall bluffs.

Key attractions of this area include Iron Mountain, a water falls on Island Creek, the Selway Wild and Scenic River, the RNA, and two Threatened and Endangered wildlife species--the gray wolf and bald eagle. All of the 7,000-acre O'Hara Research Natural Area, established in 1980, is contained within this Roadless Area. Three rare plant species and one threatened specie have been located in this RNA.

Major current uses of this area include hiking, hunting, big-game winter range, and Outfitter and Guide businesses.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the Area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity and Appearance

Long-term ecological processes are operating with only low impacts from development activities on lands surrounding the area. The trails are generally so bad that in another 10 years without maintenance, natural processes will take over. A few nonindigenous plants will probably remain, however, as the result of heavy stock use on the trails in past years.

In the creek bottom, Area 1226 appears almost completely natural, except for the trail and a few sections of old telephone wire that were never picked up. In the Iron Mountain vicinity, there are some old mining sink holes which are now almost completely grown over. Most people would not notice them.

2. Opportunities for Solitude

At 25,326 acres, Area 1226 offers a moderate potential for solitude. Topographic and vegetative screening range from moderate to high. The area includes almost all of the O'Hara Creek drainage, one of the largest on the lower Selway, and opportunities for solitude are highest in and near the stream bottoms.

The Selway River Road is visible from about half of the Selway Face portion of the area, and the Hamby Road is visible from other parts. A telephone microwave relay and a Forest Service radio remote station atop Iron Mountain are visible from some parts of the area.

3. Primitive Recreation Opportunities

Potential for primitive recreation opportunity is limited. Although the area is very diverse in plants, it is less so in fish, wildlife, and terrain. There are no lakes.

Following the trails is often a challenge, as is wading O'Hara Creek in high water. There are few dominant visual features.

4. Manageability and Boundaries

About half of the boundary of Area 1226 follows roads, trails, and the Selway River. Some of the remainder, drawn around existing and past timber sale areas, would be difficult to establish on the ground.

The portion of this area that is most unique is already being managed as a Research Natural Area and, as such, must be protected against activities which modify ecological processes. Logging is prohibited, and recreation is discouraged. Roads are not permitted unless they contribute to RNA objectives. Unique scenic qualities of the Selway Face are protected under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

No adjustments in acreage or boundaries have been made since 1979. There are no existing uses that would conflict with wilderness designation.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1226 are shown in Table C-3. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

Table C-3
Selected Resource Values-O'Hara-Falls Creek Roadless Area 1226
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	25326	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	25326	Summer Habitat	Acres	13329
			Winter Habitat	Acres	11997
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	13329
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	25326	Winter Hab.	Acres	11997
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	13329
			Winter Hab.	Acres	11997
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	0	Stream Miles	Miles	31
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	30
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	23778	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MMBF	309MM	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	25326
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	12
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	3200	Low	Acres	25326
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	25326	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

a. Recreation

The O'Hara Creek trailhead is located 4 miles up Road 651. This trail, once a mainline route, is now in very poor condition, but a few hunters and fishermen use it each year. The other trails in the area get even less use.

A full-service, 34-unit campground is located at O'Hara Bar, just outside of the roadless area, but visitors here seldom venture far inside the area. There are many fishermen and floaters on the Selway River in the summer, but these people also never get very far into the roadless area.

b. Fish and Wildlife

The usual big-game species -- deer, elk, bear, moose -- inhabit Area 1226. Hunting pressure is light because of difficult access over existing trails. The O'Hara Creek fishery is typical of Selway tributaries, with anadromous fish throughout and a few natives in the head of the creek. Like many other streams in the Selway country, O'Hara Creek contains eastern brook trout in the headwaters. These were planted long ago.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified the area as potential habitat for gray wolves and bald eagles.

c. Livestock

A grazing allotment in the Iron Mountain vicinity was discontinued in 1970 due to overuse, and natural processes are slowly being restored.

d. Timber

Estimated standing volume is 309 MMBF, but part of this is in the Research Natural Area, as are approximately 6,500 of the 23,778 tentatively suitable acres.

e. Minerals

Iron Mountain, the highest point in the area, is evidently composed of some kind of magnetic iron, because lightning strikes there often during thunderstorms. There has been some past mining activity in the Iron Mountain vicinity and there are currently 12 unpatented claims in the area. Current mineral potential is low.

2. Other Management Considerations

The O'Hara drainage is unique. This fact was recognized when the Chief of the Forest Service established a 7,000-acre Research Natural Area there in 1980, the first such area established on the Nez Perce National Forest.

According to the RNA establishment report, "O'Hara Creek has been selected because it has the best known representation of several characteristics of the lower Lochsa-Selway area, is accessible, and presents minimal conflicts with other uses. The nearby Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness includes some of the individual values found in O'Hara Creek; however, a comparable area within the wilderness has not been found and access is very limited."

At the time the RNA was established, three rare plant species and one threatened species had been located in O'Hara Creek, and it is very likely there are more.

A protected 1/4-mile corridor immediately adjacent to the Selway River has been established under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and everything that can be seen from the river is managed to retain the present visual qualities.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this Appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The area has unique ecological features that are not duplicated in existing nearby wilderness. However, these values have been protected for scientific purposes through administrative classification of a Research Natural Area.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

No individuals or groups have recommended wilderness.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-4, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1226 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 250 MMBF of standing volume now present in the area, would be foregone. Approximately 1 percent of the tentatively suitable timberland on the Forest would not be available.

Table C-4
Management Emphasis-O'Hara-Falls Creek Roadless Area 1226 - 25,326 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Management Emphasis	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	18.1	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2	0	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minimum Level	.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Research Natural Area	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.3	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	5.1	4.4	5.4	7.4	5.0	4.3	0	6.2	5.8	5.3	5.3
Developed-Decade 5	18.3	18.3	18.3	18.3	18.3	18.3	0	18.3	18.3	18.3	18.3
Roadless-Decade 1	20.2	20.9	19.9	17.9	20.3	21.0	0	19.1	19.5	20.0	20.0
Roadless-Decade 5	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.3	0	0	0	0

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing and mineral development on existing valid claims could be allowed.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf and bald eagle habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness provides full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased. Almost all of the O'Hara drainage would be maintained in its natural condition.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 68 and 71 percent of Roadless Area 1226 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 250 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Visual constraints would also be imposed on areas that can be seen from the Selway recreation river corridor.

Between 4,300 and 7,400 acres would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The higher acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives (I and J) with large acreages of proposed wilderness which maximize outputs outside of the wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high fish/water quality objectives (F, G, K, and L).

Area 1226 would be entered in four places in the first decade. The amount of actual road constructed would depend on the timber objectives of each alternative. In the overall road design, one spur would enter the area in Section 9, T31N, R8E, run down Saddle Ridge to within 1 mile of O'Hara Creek, go north across the heads of two small tributaries of the Creek, cross the heads of Stillman Creek and Daye Creek, and deadend under the north side of Stillman Point. Another spur in Section 1, T31N, R8E would be an extension of the road down the ridge to the northwest of SOB Creek, which would run westward across several tributaries of the Selway River and into the head of Wash Creek. A road would enter Area 1226 in Section 7, T31N, R9E and run down the ridge between SOB and Falls Creeks, and another road would open the area north of O'Hara Point in Saddle Creek. Timber harvest areas would be adjacent to these roads.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open approximately 4,300 acres to roaded development in the first decade.

None of this activity would affect the most unique features of the area, which are the O'Hara Research Natural Area, the Selway Recreational River corridor, and the bottom of O'Hara Creek.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber and mining industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, so project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Bald eagle habitat in the Selway River corridor would be unaffected. Area 1226 is potential gray wolf habitat, which could be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

- Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production, and natural tree generation is utilized. Removing trees from a site would increase the production in forbs, grasses, and shrubs that provide forage for wintering big-game animals. Therefore, carrying capacity of big-game winter ranges would increase in proportion to the number of acres of winter range harvested each year.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--At least 5 percent of the O'Hara watershed would remain in old growth in all alternatives. This would be exceeded in Area 1226 because of the Research Natural Area. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 19,000 acres of Area 1226 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

None of Area 1226 would be assigned to these prescriptions in any alternative.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management. Less than 1 percent of Area 1226 would be affected in any alternative.

Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are built. If they are, effects would be similar to those of roaded development. If they are not, effects would resemble those of unroaded management; however, from the standpoint of potential wilderness possibilities, it should be assumed that areas with a minimum level management emphasis located within areas scheduled for roaded development would eventually be roaded.

e. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Research Natural Area (RNA)

This prescription is assigned to 7,000 acres of Area 1226 in all alternatives. Management of Research Natural Areas excludes activities which directly or indirectly modify ecological processes. Logging is prohibited, and no roads are planned. Fire suppression is accomplished by manual means. In effect, wilderness characteristics are retained. The Research Natural Area is the most unique part of the roadless area.

Since this RNA is already established and is not being re-evaluated in the planning process, no further environmental consequences are listed.

ROADLESS AREA 1227 -- LICK POINT

8,006 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area contains Lick Creek and the head of American River. It is between 5,000 and 6,000 feet in elevation, and is completely surrounded by roads.

Meadows are found along the creek bottoms. The rest of the area is rolling and homogeneous. Over half of the area is covered with brushfields. The remaining portions are covered by either patches of old growth mixed with alder glades or stands comprised of various age classes. Lodgepole pine is the main species.

Cattle, horses, elk, and deer use all of the area, especially the meadows. Grazing by these animals causes most of the impacts which are especially heavy near the salt lick at Lick Point and on the trails. About five acres at the lick have been fenced to reduce impacts. There are also semipermanent exclosures on this range, as well as a number of drift fences. Trails cover the area. Some are not on the Forest Service trail system, but have resulted from game and stock use over the years.

The American River is an anadromous fishery and supports steelhead trout and chinook salmon. Rainbow, cutthroat, brook trout, and whitefish are also present. The area is excellent moose range, potential elk summer range, and potential wolf habitat. The meadows along Lick Creek and the American River are very heavily used for calving and calf rearing.

Current major uses include hunting and grazing.

One hundred forty-five acres of private land adjoin Area 1227 on the south.

B. CAPABILITY

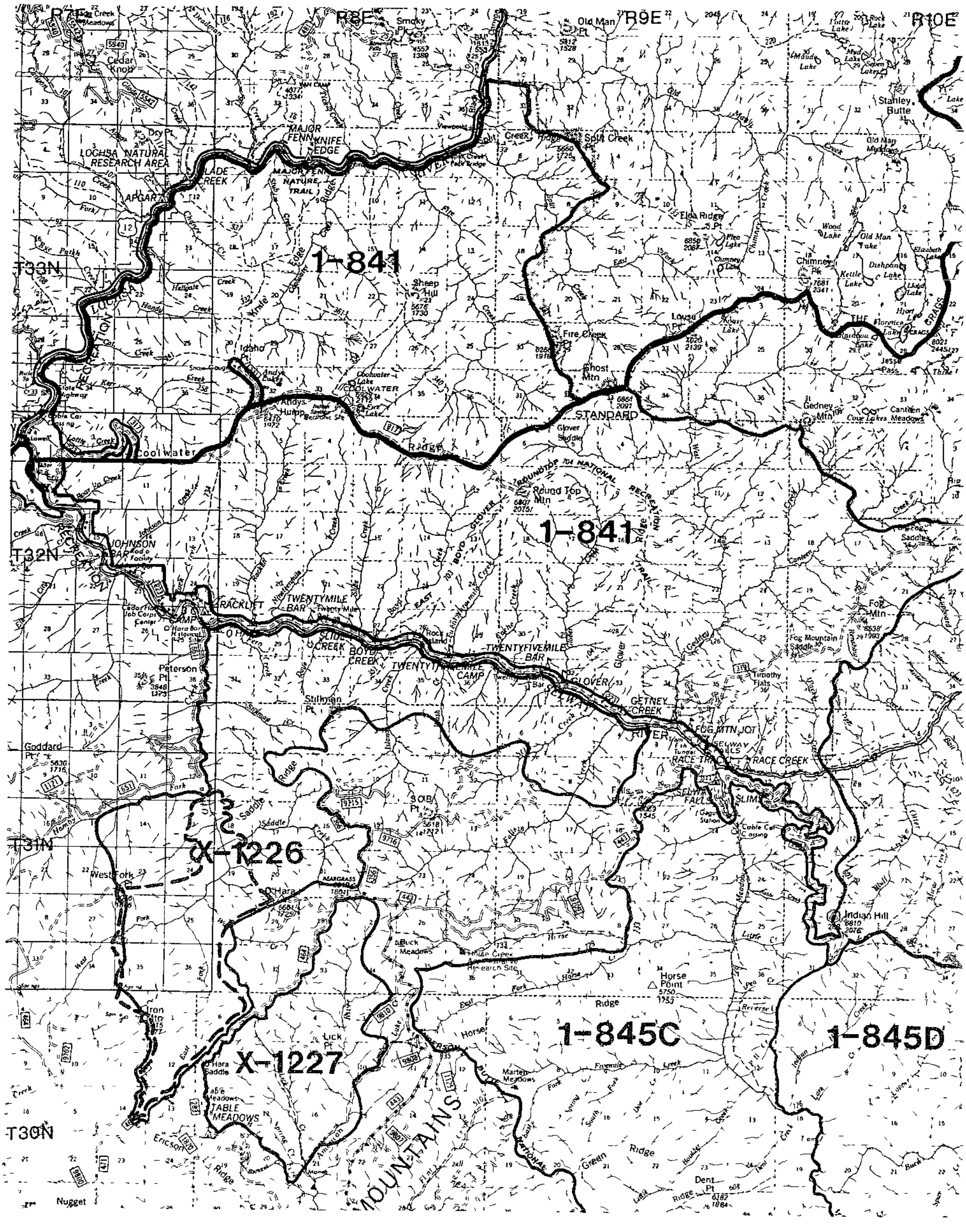
This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Impacts on natural processes are moderate. Trails and streambanks in the area are used by stock and game. Thistles and other nonindigenous plants are present.

2. Natural Appearance

Sights, sounds, and smells of grazing animals are present. Fences and exclosures are noticeable. Noise by vehicles on roads is apparent near the edges of the area.


R8E
R9E
R10E
T33N
T32N
T31N
T30N
1-841
1-841
X-1226
X-1227
1-845C
1-845D
Cedar Knob
Smoky Pt
Old Man Pt
Stanley Butte
MAJOR FENN
KNIFE EDGE
LOCHSA NATURAL RESEARCH AREA
APGAR
Split Creek Pt
Flea Ridge Pt
Chimney Pk
Sheep Hill
Fire Creek Pt
Ghost Mtn
STANDARD
Gedney Mtn
Round Top Mtn
JOHNSON BAR
RACKLIFF
TWENTYMILE BAR
BOYD CREEK
TWENTYFIVEMILE BAR
GLOVER
GETNEY CREEK
Fog Mtn
Timothy Flats
Peterson Pt
Stillman Pt
Goddard Pt
SELWAY FALLS
RACE CREEK
Indian Hill
West Fork
O'Hara
Horse Point
Lick Pt
TABLE MEADOWS
Iron Mtn
Ericson Ridge
Green Ridge
Dent Pt
Nugget
MOUNTAINS

3. Solitude

This is the smallest roadless area on the Nez Perce National Forest. Although vegetation is sometimes dense, both on-site and off-site intrusions seriously restrict the isolation required for a feeling of solitude.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

There is little diversity in the area, and few challenges are present. Even if one became lost because of the absence of prominent landmarks, roads are located within a few miles in any direction.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Roads form a natural boundary around this area. Administrative costs per acre would be high, however, due to the small size of the area and the fact that it does not share a boundary with any other wilderness or roadless area. Due to the relatively narrow shape, the majority of the area is influenced by the surrounding roads. No adjustments in acreage or boundaries have been made since 1979.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1227 are shown in Table C-5. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Recreation

Area 1227 is popular as a place to hunt big game.

b. Fish and Wildlife

Elk, deer, and moose are the principal big-game species. There is little big-game winter range mostly because of the elevations. Native and anadromous fish are found in American River and its tributaries.

c. Livestock

The meadows in this area have been grazed for many years. There are currently two allotments with a combined total of 753 AUMs.

d. Timber

The 105.3 MMBF in the area is predominantly lodgepole pine.

Table C-5
Selected Resource Values - Lick Point Roadless Area 1227
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	8006	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	8006	Summer Habitat	Acres	7966
			Winter Habitat	Acres	40
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	7966
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	7879	Winter Hab.	Acres	40
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	7966
			Winter Hab.	Acres	40
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	4700	Stream Miles	Miles	22
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	753	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	21
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	70			
AUMs	AUMs	50	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	6939	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	105318	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	7879
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	0
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	7879
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	8006	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The area is representative of ecosystems which are common in nearby existing wildernesses. It has a long history of grazing, which could continue under wilderness designation.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

Little interest has been shown toward making this area a wilderness or keeping it roadless. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified it as potential habitat for threatened and endangered species. Local public opinion does not support wilderness, nor does the wood products industry.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-6, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1227 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest. Wilderness characteristics would be enhanced.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 105.3 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone. Less than 1 percent of the tentatively suitable timberland on the Forest would not be available.

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels could continue.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low inside the area, but not in the roaded areas surrounding it. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf potential habitat would be maintained.

Table C-6
Management Emphasis-Lick Point Roadless Area 1227 - 8,006 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	7.0	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.8	0	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.8
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2
Minimum Level	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.0	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Developed-Decade 5	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Roadless-Decade 1	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.0	0	0	0	0

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential. Moose habitat would be maintained.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in the headwaters of American River.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 85 and 88 percent of Roadless Area 1227 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 105.3 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Roaded development would not be scheduled in the first decade in any alternative, but the area would be opened to timber management in the second decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Area 1227 is potential gray wolf habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Moose winter range would be maintained.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction. However, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices.

- Old-Growth Habitat--At least 5 percent of the American River watershed would remain in old growth in all alternatives. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities would remain intact in the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

This management emphasis is assigned to 163 acres in Roadless Area 1227 under alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L. These areas are mostly riparian areas. Continued roadless management of these small acreages would have effects similar to nearby roaded development.

Economic and social effects of unroaded management in Area 1235 would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would depend on the location of roaded development within the area. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced somewhat, and easy access would raise the possibility of site disturbance.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would depend on the location and extent of adjacent roaded development. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation above natural rates would not originate in these areas.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact in these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management. About 1,000 acres, or 12 percent, of Area 1227 is assigned this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1. These acres are not contiguous.

Since roads may or may not be constructed in these areas, wilderness possibilities may or may not change; however, since Area 1227 is small and is completely surrounded by roads, extensive road construction is unlikely.

Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are constructed, but since this area is already near the existing road system, effects would be similar to those of roaded development.

ROADLESS AREA 1235 -- DIXIE SUMMIT-NUT HILL

11,943 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

The name of this area is somewhat misleading as Dixie Summit and Nut Hill are no longer included within Area boundaries. Moose Butte, at 7,100 feet, is the most prominent topographical feature. A ridge runs south from Moose Butte through the Area. The east side of this ridge drains into Red River, a part of the Clearwater drainage and the west side runs into Big Creek and then Crooked Creek, in the Salmon drainage.

The Area can be reached by Road 311, which parallels the area on the west, and Roads 9535 and 9531, which approach from the east.

The elevation ranges from 5,400 feet at West Fork to 7,100 feet at Moose Butte. Although some of the slopes are steep, much of the country is relatively gentle. Quite a lot of this area is a mountain meadow environment. Big Creek Meadows cover most of the western portion of the Area and extend up the tributaries. They are grazed by both cattle and wildlife. The rest of the Area ranges from pure lodgepole pine stands on southern slopes at moderate elevations to alpine fir and Engelmann spruce in draws and higher elevations. The predominant species is mature lodgepole pine. As in other lodgepole stands in this locality, mountain pine beetles are causing increasing damage, threatening both the Research Natural Area and the adjoining timber resource.

There is a passable road from Badger Summit, in the extreme northwest corner of the Area, to an old cabin about a mile and a half within the area. This cabin, about 10x15 feet with a metal roof, dates back to the 1940s.

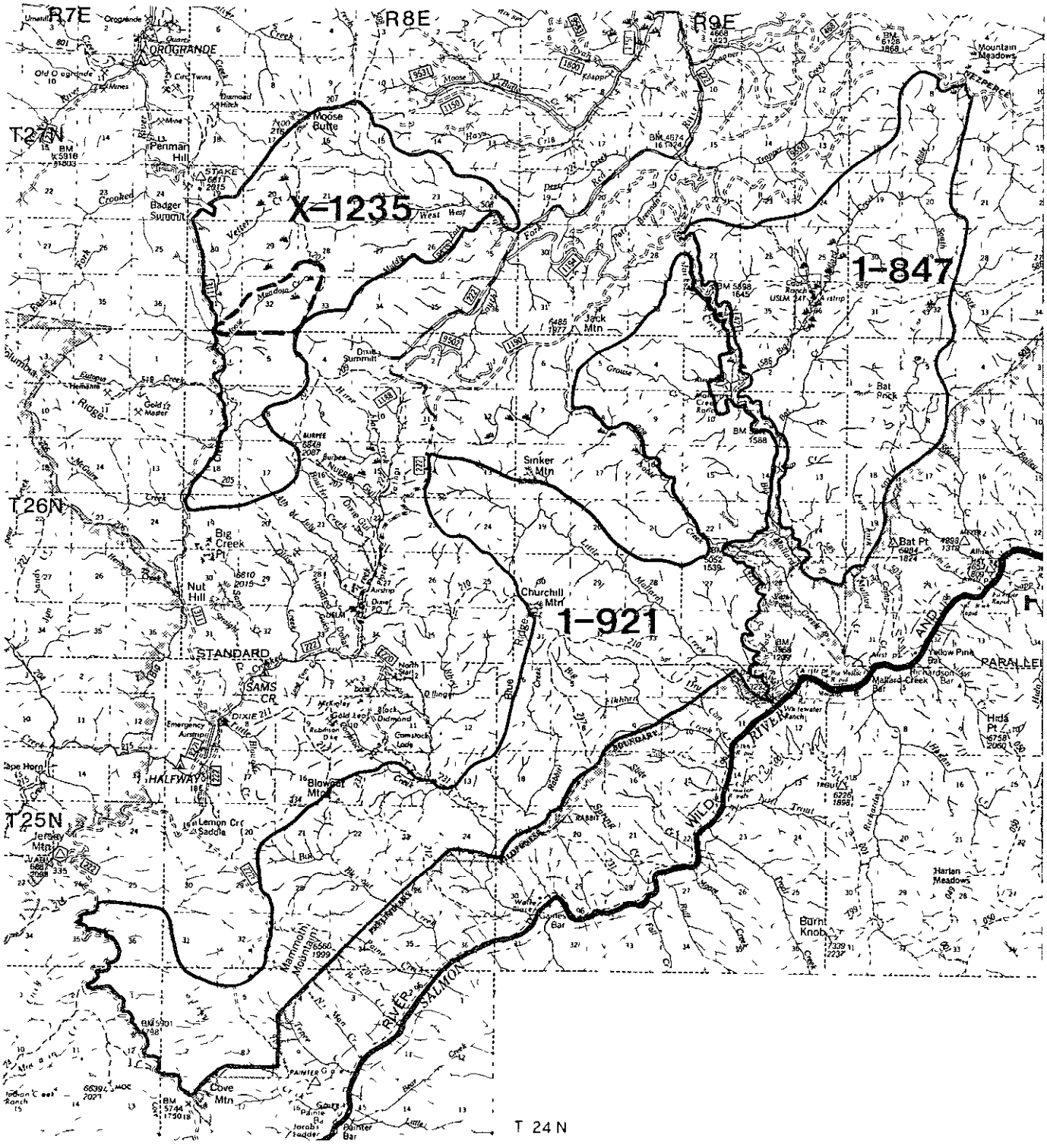
Trail 207 runs south from Moose Butte to Burpee. It is not heavily used. Other manmade features include drift fences near Vetter Creek and Eutopia Creek, and mining relics from the earliest days of mining in the area.

Traditional recreation uses include fishing, hunting, camping, horseback riding, and snowmobiling. Now that the Burpee road has been built through the middle of the Area, motorcycles and ATVs are becoming prevalent. One outfitter operates in this Area.

A 1,015-acre Research Natural Area (RNA) in Moose Meadow Creek, a tributary of Big Creek, was approved by the Chief of the Forest Service in 1982. This RNA is completely within Area 1235. Although vegetation there has not been studied thoroughly, no known threatened or endangered plant species occur in the Area; however, it does contain a few species that are uncommon in Idaho.

The features that led to the establishment of this Research Natural Area are the wet meadows along Moose Meadow Creek and its tributaries, the stream network itself, and the nearby forest of lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, and Engelmann spruce.

This area does not adjoin any existing wilderness.


R7E
R8E
R9E
T27N
T26N
T25N
T 24 N
X-1235
1-847
1-921
OROGRANDE
Moose Butte
Penman Hill
Badger Summit
Dixie Summit
Jack Mtn
Sinker Mtn
Churchill Mtn
Big Creek Pt
Nut Hill
STANDARD
SAMS CR
DIXIE
HALFWAY
Blowout Mtn
Jersey Mtn
Lemon Cr Saddle
Cape Horn
Cove Mtn
Mammoth Mountain
Bat Pt
Bat Rock
Yellow Pine
Hida Pt
Harlan Meadows
Burnt Knob
Mountain Meadows
NEZPERCE
WILDERNESS
SALMON RIVER
RIVER
AND
PARALLEL

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Natural processes have been little impacted, except for a long history of grazing and some placer mining which occurred years ago. Evidence of grazing is most apparent in Big Creek Meadows. Current mining is being carefully regulated.

2. Natural Appearance

It is possible to see cattle grazing in some parts of the area, and there is mining activity along the western boundary.

3. Solitude

The small size of this area, together with nearby roads and logging activity, restricts isolation. Off-site intrusions are apparent in many places. Roads and cattle are found along the western edge. Clearcuts and ranches in Red River Valley are visible from the ridge top.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunities

Primitive recreation opportunities are also limited. The area is small, and evidence of man's activities is not far away. The topography is not challenging, and there is little diversity.

5. Wilderness Manageability

This area is small, and the boundary is highly irregular. No existing wilderness adjoins this Area. Administrative costs per acre would be high. Constant monitoring would almost certainly be required, and a permit system for use would be likely.

Since 1979, the boundary of this area has been adjusted to exclude timber sales and miscellaneous mining activity. The acreage has been recalculated, reducing the acreage from 17,746 to the present 11,943.

Existing grazing and mining in the area could be permitted to continue under wilderness designation.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1235 are shown in Table C-7. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Recreation

Most users are hunters and fishermen.

b. Fish and Wildlife

Species include elk, moose, deer, bear, and cougar. The endangered Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf may inhabit the Area based on suitability of habitat and unconfirmed sightings. The fish in Big Creek and tributaries are not anadromous, but those in Red River are.

c. Minerals

There is currently some mining activity along the western boundary of the area, in which exploratory holes are dug with a backhoe, then are refilled and seeded. This operation involves about 100 acres. Presently there are 52 other unpatented claims in the area.

d. Grazing

This Area contains approximately 720 acres of of primary range in the Big Creek grazing allotment, and 500 acres of transitory range in the Moose Butte allotment for a total of 160 AUMs.

e. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in the area.

f. Non-Federal Lands

The area is completely within National Forest boundaries.

2. Other Management Considerations

The most unique features of the area are managed as a Research Natural Area.

The West Fork portion of the Area has considerable lodgepole pine in high risk class for Mountain Pine Beetle infestation. The Big Creek side of the Area has overmature lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, and alpine fir which are dying from old age.

Table C-7
Selected Resource Values - Dixie Summit-Nut Hill Roadless Area 1235
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	11943	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	11943	Summer Habitat	Acres	11943
			Winter Habitat	Acres	0
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	11943
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	11943	Winter Hab.	Acres	0
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	11943
			Winter Hab.	Acres	0
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	1220	Stream Miles	Miles	30
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	160	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	29
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	500			
AUMs	AUMs	50	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	10440	High	Acres	2723
Standing Volume	MBF	103108	Moderate	Acres	9220
			Low	Acres	
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	53
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	11943
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	11943	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The area has unique ecological features that are not duplicated in existing nearby wilderness. However, these values have been protected for scientific purposes through administrative classification of a Research Natural Area.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

There is no public desire to make this area a wilderness. Interests center on grazing, mining, and semiprimitive recreation.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-8, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the *introduction to this appendix.*

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1235 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation, if approved by Congress, would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest. Wilderness characteristics would be enhanced.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 103.1 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone. Less than 1 percent of the tentatively suitable timberland on the Forest would not be available. Most of the timber is mature lodgepole pine.

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral exploration of existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue, although access would be limited.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be *within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however,* wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Individuals and groups advocating increased

wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Table C-8
Management Emphasis-Dixie Summit/Nut Hill Roadless Area 1235 - 11,943 Acres (Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	9.2	8.4	9.2	9.2	8.4	8.4	0	9.2	9.2	8.4	8.4
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.8	0	0	0.8	0.8	0	0	0	0.8	0.8
Minimum Level	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Research Natural Area	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.9	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	2.6	2.1	2.7	3.8	2.3	2.1	0	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.6
Developed-Decade 5	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	0	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9
Roadless-Decade 1	9.3	9.8	9.2	8.1	9.6	9.8	0	8.6	8.9	9.3	9.3
Roadless-Decade 5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.9	0	0	0	0

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low although roaded areas are present on all sides. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area. Hunting and fishing opportunities would remain largely unchanged.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams that support anadromous fish.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 71 and 77 percent of Roadless Area 1235 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 103.1 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 2,100 and 3,800 acres would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The higher acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives (I and J) with

large acreages of proposed wilderness which maximize outputs outside of the wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high fish/water quality objectives (F, G, K, and L).

Area 1235 would be entered in two places in the first decade. Actual road construction would depend on the timber objectives of each alternative. One road would enter the area in Section 24, T27N, R8E. This road would be on the ridge between the West Fork of Red River and Hays Creek and would cross that ridge into the West Fork. The other road would cross the area at its narrowest point, enter in Section 8, and leave in Section 6, T26N, R8E. Timber harvest areas would be adjacent to these roads.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 2,100 acres to roaded development in the first decade, and, with the exception of the Research Natural Area, this area would be fully roaded in 50 years. No action under any alternative would affect the most unique feature of the area, the Moose Meadow Research Natural Area.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Hunters and fishermen would be afforded easier access. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Area 1235 is potential gray wolf habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements,

distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in the Red River drainage; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Minimum management requirements would be exceeded in all alternatives. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone, but over 8,100 acres of Area 1235 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L assign 775 acres of Roadless Area 1235 to this management emphasis. These are mostly riparian areas.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas or parts of roadless areas has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management if the acreages are large and similar to effects of roaded development if they are small, as is the case in Area 1235.

Economic and social effects of unroaded management in Area 1235 would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would depend on the proximity of nearby roaded development. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced somewhat due to access, but nearby roaded development could cause sites to be disturbed.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would depend on the location and extent of roaded development. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--The unroaded acres would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation originating on these lands would be minimal.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact on these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management. About 7 percent of Area 1235 is assigned to this management emphasis. Acreages are not contiguous.

Since roads may or may not be built, wilderness possibilities may or may not change. Since most of Area 1235, except for the Research Natural Area, will be roaded, effects would resemble those of roaded development.

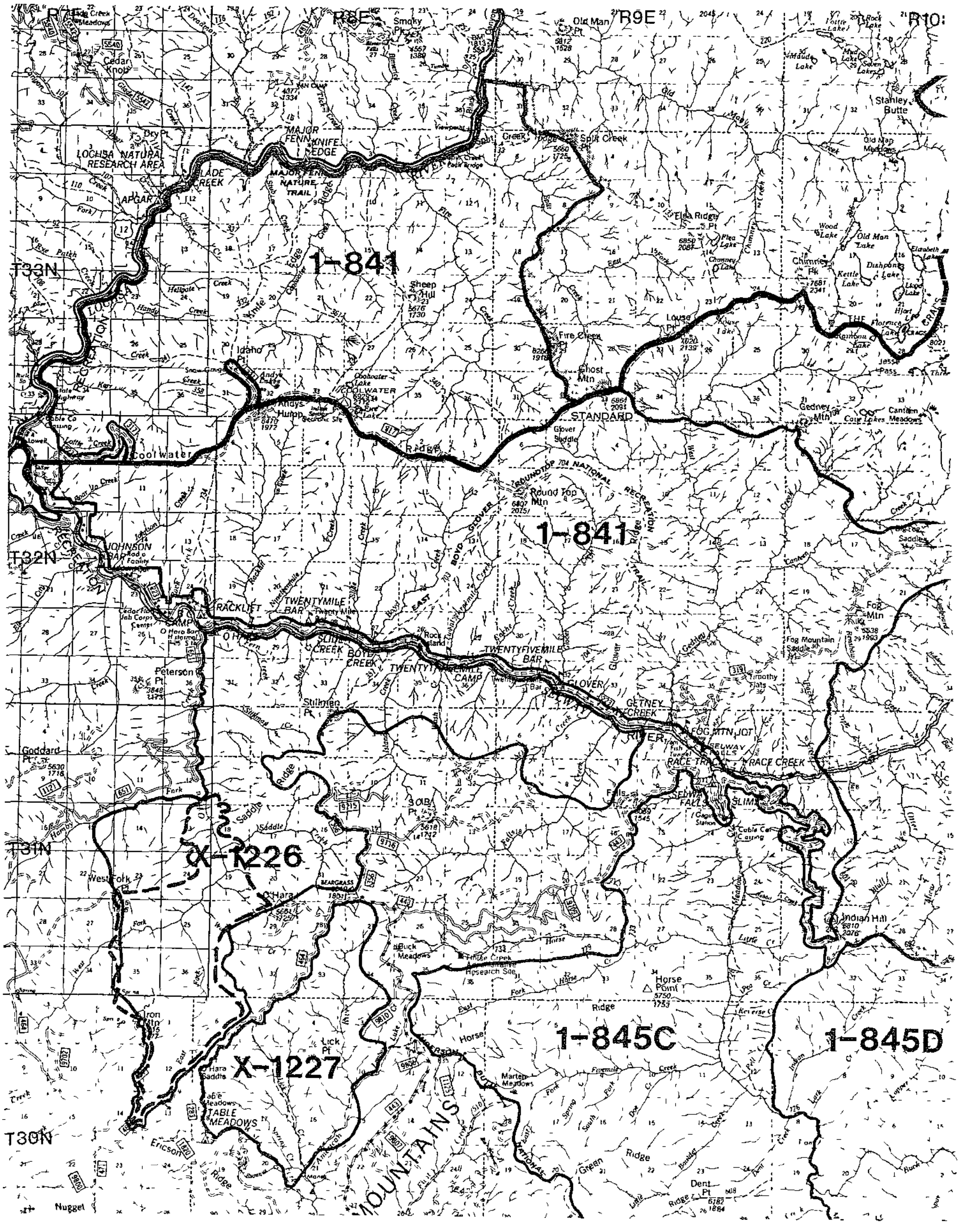
Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are constructed. If they are, effects would be similar to those of roaded development. If they are not, effects would resemble those of unroaded management; however, from the standpoint of wilderness potential, it should be assumed that areas with a minimum level management emphasis would eventually be roaded.

e. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Research Natural Area (RNA)

This prescription is assigned to 1,015 acres of Area 1235 in all alternatives.

Management of Research Natural Areas excludes activities which directly or indirectly modify ecological processes. Logging is prohibited, and no roads are planned. Fire suppression is accomplished by manual means. In effect, wilderness characteristics are retained.

Since this RNA is already established and is not being re-evaluated in the planning process, no further environmental consequences are listed.


R8E
R9E
T33N
T32N
T31N
T30N
1-841
1-841
X-1226
X-1227
1-845C
1-845D
LOCHSA NATURAL RESEARCH AREA
MAJOR FENN
KNIFE EDGE
MAJOR FENN NATURE TRAIL
APGAR
Coolwater
STANDARD
Round Top Mtn
JOHNSON BAR
RACKLIFF
TWENTYMILE BAR
TWENTYFIVEMILE BAR
SLIDE CREEK
BOYD CREEK
GLOVER
GETNEY CREEK
FOG MTN JCT
SELWAY FALLS
RACE CREEK
Horse Point
Indian Hill
TABLE MEADOWS
Stanley Butte
Louse Pt
Ghost Mtn
Sheep Hill
Andys Hump
Fire Creek
Peterson Pt
Goddard Pt
Stillman Pt
Lick Pt
Green Ridge
Dent Pt
Nugget
MOUNTAINS

ROADLESS AREA 1841 -- RACKLIFF-GEDNEY

90,173 Acres

Part of the Rackliff-Gedney roadless area is on the Nez Perce National Forest (55,463 acres) and part is on the Clearwater National Forest (34,710 acres). However, National Forest boundaries do not affect the wilderness capabilities of any roadless area, and the area is considered as a whole. As stated in Chapter 1, the Nez Perce is the lead Forest in consideration of this roadless area for wilderness. The following discussion includes the entire area.

A. DESCRIPTION

Area 1841 is generally the lands between the Lochsa and Selway Rivers from their confluence eastward to the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness boundary. The ridgetop that separates the drainages is also the boundary between the Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests.

The Area's northern boundary is the Lochsa River, and the southern boundary is located 1/4 mile above the Selway River. This river corridor, established under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, contains the Selway River road, several parcels of private property, Forest Service facilities, and numerous recreational developments. Although both the Lochsa and Selway are classified rivers, only the Lochsa corridor is included in the roadless area because there is very little development there.

Coolwater Road 317, an unsurfaced, primitive road built in the 1930s, traverses about two-thirds of the boundary between the Forests, and deadends at Roundtop Mountain -- 16 miles from the Selway River. This road furnishes access from the west. Fog Mountain Road 319 enters the area from the south and deadends at Big Fog Saddle, 13 miles from the Selway River. Both are routes to Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness trailheads. U.S. Highway 12 parallels the northern boundary of the area across the Lochsa River. A pack bridge at Split Creek furnishes access from the North.

Slopes are steep throughout and the country is rugged. Such topographical features as Knife Edge Ridge are appropriately named. The river canyons range from 1,500 to 1,900 feet in elevation, and the highest point in the area, Coolwater Lookout, is 6,926 feet.

Vegetation on the area is largely a result of past wildfires. Although trees have reestablished themselves on some sites, much of the area consists of extensive brushfields with islands of unburned trees and snags. Mixed conifer species occupy the lower elevations, and brush and meadows the upper elevations.

Uses of the Area include hunting, fishing, hiking, sightseeing, horseback riding, berry picking, Outfitter and Guide services, and grazing.

There are many other special features of the Area including Native American religious sites and trails, a sheep drive trail, a grave site, the Boyd Glover Roundtop National Recreation Trail, high mountain lakes, bald eagle and osprey in the River corridors, and brushfields from the 1934 Pete King fire with

excellent elk habitat (both elk summer and winter range) and an elk herd. Scenic landmarks include Coolwater Ridge and Big Fog Saddle.

The parts of the Area near Andy's Lake, Coolwater Lake, and Fire Lake have been glaciated, and contain landforms and cirque basins commonly found in the adjoining wilderness.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Except for the roads and a few trails, man's activities have had small impact on natural processes in Area 1841. Most of the trails are little used and receive little maintenance. Some, however, are heavily used by stock during the hunting seasons and erosion is locally severe.

Parts of the brushfields have been broadcast burned in order to improve big-game forage. Although these projects were begun in the 1960s, only the most recent burns would show effects apparent to untrained observers.

Some physical evidence of placer mining around the turn of the century can be found at China Flat on the Lochsa River near the mouth of Kerr Creek.

There is evidence of past logging activity in almost all major drainages on the Lochsa side of the area, and some on the Selway side. This logging was mostly for cedar products - poles, posts, and shakes. Remnants of old flumes still exist along the Lochsa.

In the early 1960s, erosion became a major problem on the steep southern slopes just below Coolwater Lookout. All grazing allotments were closed, and a bulldozer was brought in to terrace the hillside. These trenches are now revegetated.

Other impacts are located near the roads, and are not extensive. Overall, less than 15 percent of the area is impacted.

2. Apparent Naturalness

Although the appearance of the area has been altered by 20th century wildfires, this is probably not an impact that is apparent to most visitors -- there is little recent evidence of fire. Impacts on apparent naturalness are caused mainly by facilities and activities along the roads.

A short spur road leads from Coolwater Road to Idaho Point. A snow-measuring installation owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is located along this road.

A television receiving installation with antennas and a small block house is located near the Idaho Point junction.

There is a short spur road at Remount that leads to an outfitter camp, which is occupied during the summer and fall.

Coolwater Lookout is located on the highest pinnacle in the area, and is visible from most of the higher elevations.

Trenches dug by bulldozers in the early 1960s to control erosion below the lookout are still visible.

3. Solitude

Opportunities for solitude vary throughout the area.

Traffic noise from U.S. Highway 12 is apparent in many parts of the Lochsa face, and the highway is visible from much of it.

The view from the Coolwater ridgetop gives one an impression of vastness, especially on a clear day or clear night, but there are also intrusions. Although the Coolwater Road receives light use much of the year, traffic is heavy during the hunting season.

The mid-slope areas, especially those in the larger drainages, offer the highest opportunities for solitude. Topographic and vegetative screening are highest here, and few off-site intrusions are visible, especially in the stream bottoms, away from the ridgetop trails.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunities

Overall, these are somewhat limited because of the roads entering the area, but they exist nonetheless. Topographic and vegetative cover are significant over much of the area, and trails tend to concentrate visitors on ridgetops. The area is not without challenge and risk: there are cliffs and very steep slopes. Cross-country travel is often difficult; and it is sometimes a challenge to follow the trails. Hunters are injured or die in this area and in the nearby wilderness nearly every year.

The area is moderately diverse. Lakes are present as well as one of the larger tributaries of the Selway River. Vegetation is a diverse mix of trees, brush and grass. The weather is changeable; snow is possible any month of the year.

Trails are about the only recreational facility present, and they are of low standard.

Area 1841 adjoins the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness on the east, offering an additional million acres of solitude and primitive recreation opportunity.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Boundaries of this area have not been adjusted since 1979, but an acreage recalculation has added 2,463 acres to the Nez Perce Forest portion of the area. For the most part, the boundaries follow well-defined topographical features. Some surveying and marking might be necessary to establish a wilderness boundary along the private property on the west and south sides.

Boundaries would probably have to be adjusted near the roads in this area to allow for some activities using motorized equipment. The roads could be closed or converted to trails, but the costs in adverse public reaction would be great.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1841 are shown in Tables C-9 and C-10. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Recreation

Travelers driving U.S. Highway 12 consider the part of the area visible from the highway as pleasant scenery. The highway is a major recreational route.

Hunting, berry picking, and sightseeing are the principal uses of the area; hunting is the most important. Commercial outfitters have base camps and stock facilities in the area, and many hunters bring in their own pack and saddle stock during the hunting seasons.

Access from U.S. Highway 12 is limited to several foot and horse trails crossing the river. There is a pack bridge at the Split Creek trailhead, but other river crossings are limited to low-water fords.

A road also follows the southern boundary of the area. Although at one time or another trails were built up almost every southside ridge from the river to the ridgetop, only a few are now maintained, and use is light. A National Recreation Trail has been established on the south side, but it is steep and hard to find in places, and is thus suitable only for the most hardy.

The main access route is Coolwater Road 317, which enters the area from the West and bisects it for 16 miles. It is not surfaced and becomes difficult to traverse in years of heavy rain and snow during hunting seasons. It is usually impossible to drive to the end of this road before July 4 because of snow.

b. Fish and Wildlife

The brushfields in the area supply browse for elk and other big-game species. Elk populations have declined from those once found; one reason is that much of the vegetation has grown too high to furnish quality browse for the animals. In recent years, a modest program of prescribed burning has been conducted in an attempt to encourage new vegetation.

Area 1841 provides habitat for elk, mule and whitetail deer, black bear, moose, mountain goat, and cougar. High-quality elk summer range is found at the mid and high elevations, and the lower elevations are important winter range.

Glover Ridge, a flat, open ridge on the east side of the area, is a major elk-calving site. The only active grazing allotment in Rackliff-Gedney is also located on and around Glover Ridge.

Although bald eagle and osprey are found mainly in the River corridor, they are active in lower parts of the Area as well. The entire Area is potential wolf and grizzly bear habitat.

The Area contains several streams on both the Lochsa and Selway sides of the divide that are potential spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous and native fish. These streams contain populations of both. All of the smaller streams contain fish, but few are important fisheries.

Table C-9
Selected Resource Values - Rackliff-Gedney Roadless Area 1841 - Nez Perce Forest Portion
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	55463	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	55463	Summer Habitat	Acres	27085
			Winter Habitat	Acres	28378
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	27085
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	55463	Winter Hab.	Acres	28378
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	27085
			Winter Hab.	Acres	28378
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	2362	Stream Miles	Miles	48
Allotments	No.	1			
AUMs	AUMs	158	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	46
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	2004			
AUMs	AUMs	158	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	49160	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	311508	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	55463
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	0
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	4160	Low	Acres	55463
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	55463	Leases	No.	0
Grizzly Bear			Leased Area	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	55463			

Table C-10
Selected Resource Values - Rackliff-Gedney Roadless Area 1841 - Clearwater Forest Portion
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	34710	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	34710	Summer Habitat	Acres	19051
			Winter Habitat	Acres	13048
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	RVDs	27	Summer Hab.	Acres	19051
Semiprim.Nonmotor	RVDs	2040	Winter Hab.	Acres	13048
Semiprim.Motor.	RVDs	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	RVDs	11419	Summer Hab.	Acres	19051
			Winter Hab.	Acres	19051
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	0	Stream Miles	Miles	149
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	301
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	2090	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	1			
AUMs	AUMs	190	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	31112	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	460000	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	34710
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	1
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	34710
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

c. Livestock

There is one cattle grazing allotment in the area, on Glover Ridge. In addition, some grazing is allowed to commercial outfitters.

d. Timber

Tree species in the area include western redcedar, larch, Douglas-fir, grand fir, ponderosa pine, and western white pine. At the higher elevations, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, and Engelmann spruce are found. Scattered whitebark pine stands are located along the ridgetop.

e. Minerals

There is one mining claim in the area, on an alluvial terrace near the mouth of Kerr Creek, known as China Flat. Some minor handtool exploration has been undertaken there in recent years.

f. Cultural Resources

Coolwater Ridge, Knife Edge Ridge, and Ridgetop Trail 3A into the wilderness were used by both prehistoric peoples and by Native Americans during historic times. Artifacts have been found on the ridgetops, and historic records have established the Coolwater Ridge route as a major avenue into the high country to the east.

There is at least one marked grave in the area.

g. Non-Federal Lands

There are no non-Federal lands in this roadless area.

2. Other Management Considerations

The Chance Creek drainage in the Clearwater National Forest portion of the Area contains a small part of the Lochsa Research Natural Area, established by the Chief of the Forest Service in 1977. The RNA was established to protect and study the unique Pacific Coast vegetation types (coastal disjunct species) that occur along the lower Lochsa and lower Selway. Flowering dogwood and 14 other plant species that are normally found west of the Cascade Range occur in the RNA and are not found further east in the continental U.S.

Approximately 2,000 acres per year are planned for prescribed burning to improve wildlife habitat.

The Selway and Lochsa Rivers will be managed according to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and individual river management plans.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See Section 1 of this appendix. The Clearwater National Forest contains 259,165 acres of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

This area is similar to the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in topography and vegetation.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

Although there has been very little interest in making this area a wilderness, there has been considerable interest in keeping part or all of it roadless. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game recommends continued roadless management as elk winter range, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified Area 1841 as one that has potential for promoting gray wolf recovery. The Inland Forest Resource Council, a forest products industry organization, acknowledges the importance of key elk winter range, but suggests that timber harvest may have an important role in intensive management of winter ranges.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-11, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

For the purposes of this evaluation, the Clearwater Forest alternatives have been fitted to the Nez Perce Forest alternatives on the basis of goals and objectives common to both alternative sets. The relationship between the two Forests' alternatives is shown in Table C-12.

Management emphasis by alternative for the Clearwater Forest is displayed in Table C-13. Roaded development prescriptions are elk winter; timber/wildlife-watershed; timber/visual-riparian; and timber/special. The special emphasis shown is for the Wild and Scenic River corridor and the Research Natural Area, which are unroaded.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1841 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. Alternatives I and J recommend the Nez Perce portion only. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation, and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 771 MMBF (311 MMBF from Nez Perce portion) now present in the area, would be foregone.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development could be allowed to continue on valid existing claims.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness. The Clearwater Forest considers all of these, and, in addition, special areas (Wild and Scenic River Corridors and Research Natural Areas), and coldwater fish habitat.

Table C-11
Management Emphasis - Rackliff-Gedney Roadless Area 1841 - 90,173 Acres
Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests
(Thousand Acres)

Management Emphasis	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development:											
Nez Perce	0	0	51.5	51.5	0	10.6	0	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	25.6	25.2	24.0	25.1	25.2	25.2	0	28.1	25.5	25.2	25.2
	25.6	25.2	75.5	76.6	25.2	35.8	0	28.1	25.5	25.2	25.2
Unroaded Management:											
Nez Perce	55.5	55.5	0	0	55.5	44.9	0	0	0	0	55.5
Clearwater	3.5	8.0	3.5	8.0	8.0	8.0	0	3.5	3.5	8.0	8.0
	59.0	63.5	3.5	8.0	63.5	52.9	0	3.5	3.5	8.0	63.5
Minimum Level:											
Nez Perce	0	0	4.0	4.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	5.6	1.5	7.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	3.1	5.7	1.5	1.5
	5.6	1.5	11.1	5.5	1.5	1.5	0	3.1	5.7	1.5	1.5
Wilderness											
Wilderness:											
Nez Perce	0	0	0	0	0	0	55.5	55.5	55.5	55.5	0
Clearwater	0	0	0	0	0	0	34.7	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	90.2	55.5	55.5	55.5	0

Table C-11 (continued)
Management Emphasis-Rackliff-Gedney Roadless Area 1841 - 90,173 Acres
Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests
(Thousand Acres)

	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1:											
Nez Perce	0	0	1.0	1.0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.5	0.5	1.0	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Developed-Decade 5:											
Nez Perce	0	0	55.5	55.5	0	10.6	0	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	34.7	30.2	34.7	30.2	30.2	30.2	0	34.7	34.7	30.2	30.2
	34.7	30.2	90.2	85.7	30.2	40.8	0	34.7	34.7	30.2	30.2
Roadless-Decade 1:											
Nez Perce	55.5	55.5	54.5	54.5	55.5	55.0	0	0	0	0	55.5
Clearwater	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	0	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2
	89.7	89.7	88.7	88.7	89.7	89.2	0	34.2	34.2	34.2	89.7
Roadless-Decade 5:											
Nez Perce	55.5	55.5	0	0	55.5	44.9	0	0	0	0	55.5
Clearwater	0	4.5	0	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	0	0	4.5	4.5
	55.5	60.0	0	4.5	60.0	49.4	0	0	0	4.5	60.0
Wilderness:											
Nez Perce	0	0	0	0	0	0	55.5	55.5	55.5	55.5	0
Clearwater	0	0	0	0	0	0	34.7	0	0	0	0
							90.2	55.5	55.5	55.5	0

Table C-12
Alignment of Alternatives
Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Nez Perce	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Clearwater	A	F	B	C	D	E	I	H	G	F	J

Table C-13
Management Emphasis - Rackliff-Gedney Roadless Area 1841
Clearwater National Forest
(Thousand Acres)

	Alternative										
Management Emphasis	A	B	C	D	E	E1	F	G	H	I	J
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34.7	0
Nonwilderness											
Unroaded	0	0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	0	0	4.5
Elk Winter	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.4	1.9	0	1.9
Timber/ Wildlf-Wtshd	14.1	20.7	20.3	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.9	22.2	7.3	0	19.9
Timber/ Visual-Rip	9.6	1.9	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	1.9	1.9	0	3.4
Timber/Special	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17.0	0	0
Special	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	3.5
Min Level	5.6	7.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	5.6	3.1	0	1.5
TOTAL	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34.7	0
Developed											
Decade 1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0.5
Decade 5	34.7	34.7	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	34.7	34.7	0	30.2
Roadless											
Decade 1	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.2	34.7	34.2
Decade 5	0	0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	0	34.7	4.5

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Possible gray wolf, grizzly bear, and bald eagle habitat would be enhanced.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low, especially if restrictions were put on Road 317. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. However, unplanned ignitions may not be sufficient to maintain or enhance winter range. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained, especially the viewshed from U.S. Highway 12.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness provides full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource in north-central Idaho would be increased.

- Special Areas--Maximum protection would be afforded these areas.

- Coldwater Fish Habitat--Present habitat would be maintained.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 25,200 acres (28 percent of the area) and 76,600 acres (85 percent of the area) are assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 771 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 500 and 1,500 acres, less than 2 percent of the area, would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. Entries would be made from Road 317, which would require substantial reconstruction for use as a log haul road. The Clearwater Forest would enter Area 1841 in Section 4, T32N, R7E, opening the Lottie Creek drainage. The Nez Perce Forest would depart from Road 317 in Section 2, T32N, R7E, to open the head of Johnson Creek.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open approximately 1000 acres to roaded development during the first decade; 500 acres from the Nez Perce National Forest and 500 acres from the Clearwater National Forest.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness. In addition, the Clearwater Forest lists outputs for special areas (Wild and Scenic River Corridors and Research Natural Areas), and coldwater fish habitat.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Bald eagle habitat in the Lochsa and Selway River corridors would be unaffected. Area 1841 is potential gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase, and hunter access would also increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area and possibly from U.S. Highway 12, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction. However, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Old growth would be reduced, but not below minimum management requirements. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas. Snags along the ridgetop used by cavity-dependent species would be undisturbed.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 88,000 acres of Area 1841 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

- Special Areas--Wild and Scenic River Corridors and the Lochsa Research Natural Area would be unaffected.

- Coldwater Fish Habitat--Habitat would be lowered by sedimentation resulting from road construction, but not below minimum management requirements.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

Between 4 and 70 percent of Roadless Area 1841 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. All of the Nez Perce portion of the area is assigned to continued roadless management in Alternatives A, C, F, and L; and 44,900 acres in Alternative G and G1. Since the Lochsa Wild and Scenic River Corridor is inside of the roadless area (the Selway corridor is not), 3,500 acres will remain roadless in all alternatives except H and H1. In Alternatives C, E, F, G, G1, K, and L, 4,500 acres will remain roadless along the ridgetop in the vicinity of Coolwater, Fire, and Andy's Lakes on the Clearwater Forest.

Continued roadless management of large roadless acreage has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness. In addition, the Clearwater Forest lists outputs for special areas (Wild and Scenic River corridors and Research Natural Areas), and coldwater fish habitat.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained, and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber and mining industries would not be supported under this management emphasis since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates also would not be supported, since no part of the area is recommended for classification.

Effect of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low. Animals would be secure. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation could be held to natural rates.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact.

- Special Areas--The values of Wild and Scenic River corridors and the Lochsa Research Natural Area would be enhanced.

- Coldwater Fish Habitat--Stream sedimentation would not exceed natural rates.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management. The minimum level emphasis is assigned from 1,500 to 11,100 noncontiguous acres in alternatives which contain roaded development prescriptions.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness assignment may or may not change; however, unique qualities of these areas should be retained or only moderately impacted.

Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are built. If they are, effects would be similar to those of roaded development. If they are not, effects would resemble those of unroaded management. From the standpoint of potential wilderness possibilities, it should be assumed that areas with a minimum level management emphasis would eventually be roaded.

ROADLESS AREA 1842 -- MIDDLE FORK FACE

10,170 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

Generally speaking, this area is the southside breaks of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River from Lowell downstream to the National Forest boundary.

Access from the north is by boat. Roads 286, 653, 470, and their spurs come near the southern boundary.

The elevation ranges from 1,400 feet at the Forest boundary to 4,670 feet at Lodge Point. This hillside is almost entirely a northern exposure, and is steep and brushy. Most of it burned in 1919 and 1934, and timber recovery has been spotty. Vegetation consists of mixed conifers intermingled with brushfields.

Four trails cross the Area from north to south, but they have all been abandoned by the Forest Service and can be found only in places.

All developments are contained in the 1/4-mile Wild and Scenic River corridor on the northern boundary. Several parcels of private property, totaling 392 acres, are located along the River, and they are covered under scenic easements. Bald eagles and osprey are found in the River corridor, and potential gray wolf habitat is found throughout the Area. Camps used by prehistoric peoples are also located within 1/4-mile of the River.

Much of this area is visible from U.S. Highway 12, a major recreational route.

Current uses of the Area include hunting, agriculture, and scenic drive.

B. CAPABILITY

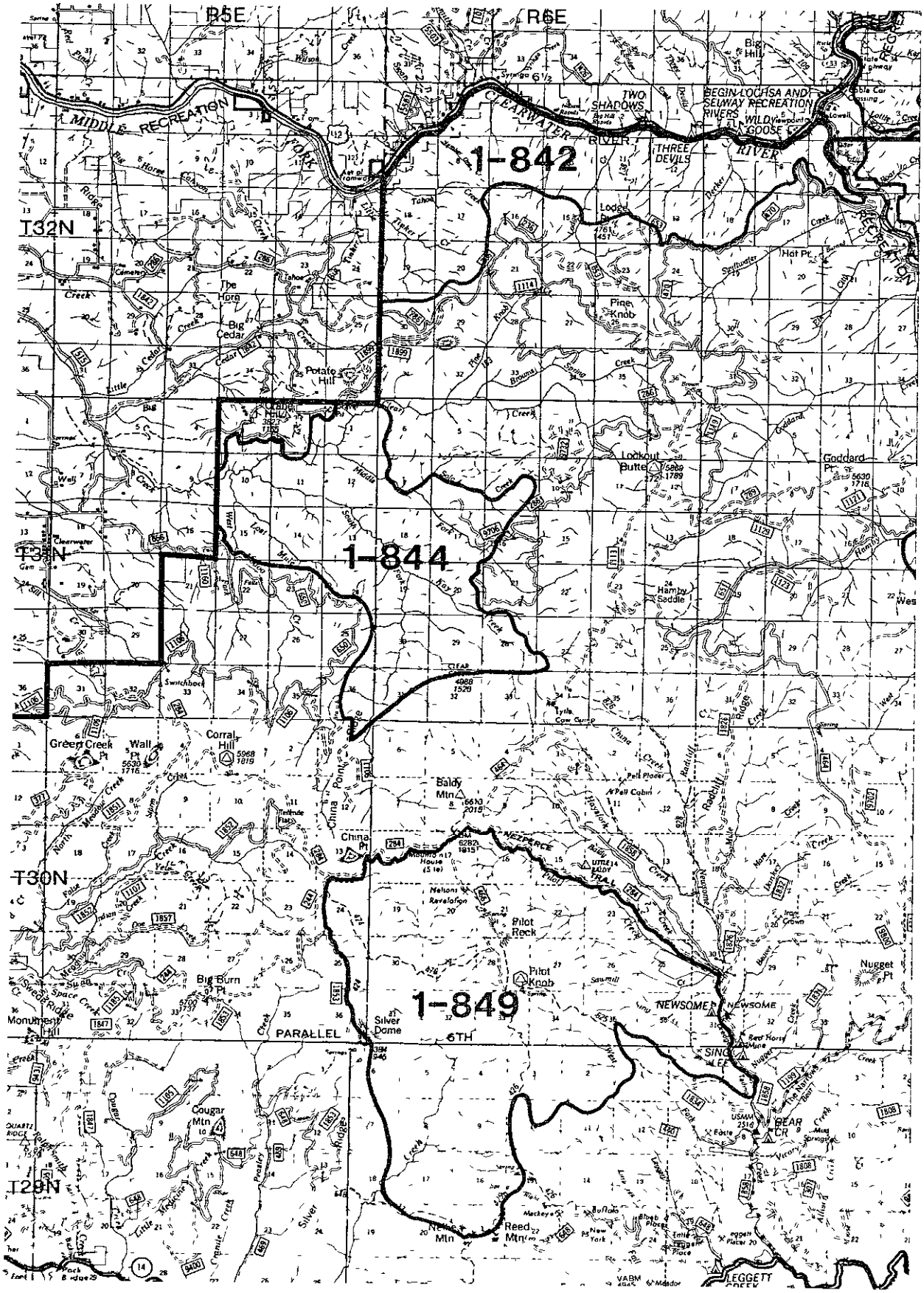
This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

There was some logging in this Area many years ago, mainly for cedar which was dragged to the river and floated to Kooskia. Some old logging roads are visible from U.S. Highway 12. Otherwise, the Area has been little disturbed since the 1934 fires, except for the top (south) side, which offers a few opportunities for small timber sales.

2. Natural Appearance

There are several private landownerships along the River, but only three of these have buildings on them. The largest also has a privately owned suspension bridge across the River which is not open to the public. There is a powerline right-of-way across private property at the confluence of the Lochsa


R5E
R6E
T32N
T31N
T30N
T29N
I-842
I-844
I-849
MIDDLE FORK
RECREATION
CLEARWATER RIVER
TWO SHADOWS
BEGIN LOCHSA AND SELWAY RECREATION RIVERS WILD GOOSE
THREE DEVILS
RIVER
Big Hill
Hot Pt.
Pine Knob
Potato Hill
Lookout Butte
Goddard Pt.
Hamby Saddle
Corral Hill
Green Creek
Wall Pt.
Baldy Mtn.
China Pt.
Pilot Rock
Pilot Knob
Nugget Pt.
NEWSOME
Big Burn Pt.
Monument Hill
Silver Dome
PARALLEL
6TH
Cougar Mtn.
Reed Mtn.
BEAR CR.
LEGGETT CREEK

and Selway Rivers, and an old cabin about a mile downstream on an abandoned mining claim. Except for these and a few segments of old logging roads, the area above the River corridor would appear natural to most people.

3. Solitude

U.S. Highway 12 is visible from many parts of the Area, along with the Syringa commercial-residential district. Smoke can be seen from the Syringa sawmill. Truck traffic from the road is audible. These external developments are an integral part of the Area.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunities

In addition to the lack of solitude, Area 1842 offers little diversity and few challenges. Although there are no recreation facilities, there is little other opportunity for primitive recreation.

5. Manageability and Boundaries

Acreage of this Area has been reduced by 1,030 since 1979 because of timber sale activity and acreage recalculations. The western boundary, which is also the Forest boundary, is fixed, as is the northern boundary, the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River. The southern and eastern boundaries are drawn to avoid the existing road system.

Per-acre costs of administering this Area as a wilderness would be high because of its isolation and small size.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1842 are shown in Table C-14. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Recreation

Use is very light, almost non-existent.

b. Fish and Wildlife

The streams in the area are too small to add up to a significant fishery. Lodge Creek may furnish anadromous fish spawning habitat.

This Area is big-game winter range. Very little hunting takes place. There is also wolf and bald eagle habitat.

c. Timber

The timber in this area is for the most part small and non-uniform, the result of past wildfires.

Table C-14
Selected Resource Values - Middle Fork Face Roadless Area 1842
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	10562	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	10170	Summer Habitat	Acres	1427
			Winter Habitat	Acres	8743
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	1427
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	10170	Winter Hab.	Acres	8743
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	1427
			Winter Hab.	Acres	8743
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	0	Stream Miles	Miles	14
Allotments	No.	0	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	13
AUMs	AUMs	0	Lakes	No.	0
Existing Vacant			Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	10120	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	128007	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	10170
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	2
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	2720	Low	Acres	10170
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

d. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in this area outside the river corridor.

e. Non-Federal Land

The boundary of this area has been drawn to exclude most private property along the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River; however, some private property still exists within the boundary (392 acres).

2. Other Management Considerations

The Middle Fork of the Clearwater River will be managed according to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the River Management Plan.

Prescribed burns will take place to improve wildlife habitat.

Several parcels of private property are covered under scenic easements.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See Section 1 of this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

Unique features are already protected under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Summary of Public Comment

Little interest has been shown by individuals or groups and organizations in making this area a wilderness.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-15, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1842 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 128 MMBF of standing volume now present in the area, would be foregone.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

Table C-15
Management Emphasis-Middlefork Face Roadless Area 1842 - 10,170 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Management Emphasis	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	8.7	8.4	8.7	8.7	8.4	8.4	0	8.7	8.7	8.4	8.4
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.4	0	0	0	0.4	0.4
Minimum Level	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	0	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.2	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	2.5	2.1	2.8	3.8	2.4	2.1	0	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.6
Developed-Decade 5	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	0	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2
Roadless-Decade 1	7.7	8.1	7.4	6.4	7.8	8.1	0	7.0	7.2	7.6	7.6
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.2	0	0	0	0

All unique qualities of the area would be preserved, possibilities for altering the viewshed from U.S. Highway 12 would be minimized, and Wild and Scenic River values would be enhanced.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources,

semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. *Industries relating to primitive recreation* would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Bald eagle habitat would be undisturbed.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams draining into the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained, although much of Area 1842 is brush and reproduction.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 82 and 85 percent of Roadless Area 1842 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 128 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives.

Between 2,100 and 3,800 acres would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives (I and J) with large acreages of proposed wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximize outputs outside of the wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (F, G, K, and L).

Area 1842 would be entered in Section 20, T32N, R6E, and Section 8, T32N, R7E in the first decade. Actual mileage would depend on timber harvest objectives of each alternative. Timber harvest areas would be adjacent to these roads. The planned roads would open the Number One and Decker Creek drainages.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 2,100 acres to roaded development in the first decade. No action under any alternative would affect the Middle Fork recreation river corridor.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. The timber industry would benefit from this management emphasis. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction and habitat management would be required. Bald eagle habitat in and near the Middle Fork Clearwater River corridor would be unaffected. Area 1842 is potential gray wolf habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely. However, most known sites are in the River corridor and are not affected by this emphasis.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation is utilized. Removing trees from a site increases the production in forbs, grasses, and shrubs that provide forage for wintering big-game animals. Therefore, carrying capacity of big-game winter ranges would increase in proportion to the number of acres of winter range that are harvested each year.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. The area proposed for development would not be visible from U.S. Highway 12.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Although the streams in Area 1842 are not in themselves important anadromous fish habitat, they drain into the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River, which is. Increased sedimentation would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Forest minimum management requirements for old-growth would be met. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone by the fifth decade; however, over 6,300 acres of Area 1842 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
   Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L assign 400 acres of Area 1842 to this management emphasis. These acres are not contiguous, but are scattered throughout the area. Most are in riparian zones.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas or parts of roadless areas has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management if the acreage is large, and similar to roaded development if they are small.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat and wilderness.

Economic and social effects would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effect of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Habitat would be maintained, but would be affected by nearby roaded development.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced somewhat because of access, and sites may be disturbed.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would depend on the location and extent of roaded development. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--The unroaded area would retain present visual qualities, but would be affected by adjacent management activities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation above natural rate would not originate in these areas.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth, which would help balance out the overall vegetative mosaic in this area.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities such as naturalness would remain intact in these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management; 1,400 to 1,500 acres of Area 1842 are assigned to it. These acres are not contiguous, but are scattered parcels along ridge tops and in areas of low timber values.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change; however, unique qualities of these areas should be retained or only moderately impacted.

ROADLESS AREA 1844 -- CLEAR CREEK

11,876 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area is located in the head of Clear Creek along the western boundary of the Forest. Private property adjoins this Area on the northwestern boundary. The nearest roads are spurs of Road 1842 on the north, Road 650 on the west, and Road 286 on the east, but some of these roads are closed during the general hunting season as a means of mitigating impacts on big game.

Elevation ranges from 2,000 feet on Clear Creek at the Forest boundary to 4,600 feet at China Point Ridge and the headwaters of Solo and Kay Creeks. Topography is mountainous with steep slopes, commonly over 70 percent, paralleling the drainages. Ridgetops are relatively flat.

The Clear Creek drainage has been a significant part of the Nez Perce Forest timber sale program since the late 1950s. Most of the acreage remaining in Area 1844 burned twice, once in 1870 and again in 1931, leaving about 7,000 acres covered with brushfields in the South Fork and Middle Fork of Clear Creek drainages. Previous conifer forests have never reestablished themselves.

Vegetation in this Area ranges from very moist, warm cedar habitat types, to drier, warm Douglas-fir habitat types. Shrub coverage in the brushfields is primarily maple, willow, serviceberry, and various other shrubs. Bordering the brushfields are patches of young (approximately 50-year old) timber, a mix of grand fir, Douglas-fir, and western redcedar. Understories are sparse, but contain a variety of moist-site plants. There are also some natural meadows in upper Kay Creek in Section 28.

The brushfields have been important big-game (elk and moose) winter range, but the preferred browse species--redstem, willow, mountain maple, and serviceberry -- have in recent years grown out of reach of the animals. Some use of prescribed fire has been made in attempt to increase the value of the range.

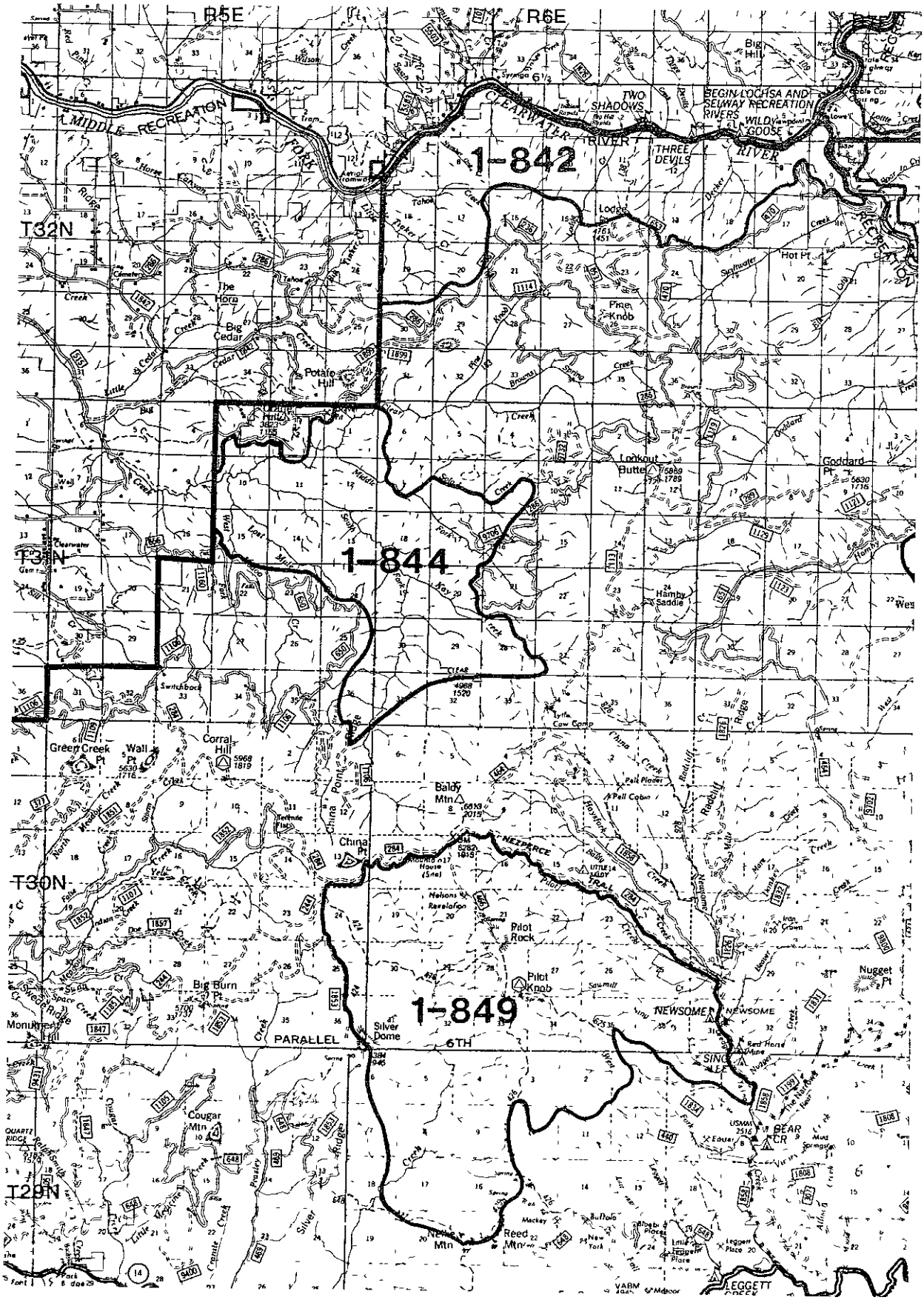
Current uses of the Area include livestock grazing, big-game winter and summer range, fishing, hunting, and mining.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Past wildfires in Clear Creek and the resulting vegetative succession are some of the natural processes that have occurred. These processes have been modified to some degree on about 200 acres which have been reburned in an attempt to improve wildlife browse. More such habitat improvement is planned.


R5E
R6E
T32N
T31N
T30N
T29N
I-842
I-844
I-849
MIDDLE FORK RECREATION
CLEARWATER RIVER
TWO SHADOWS
BEGIN LOCHSA AND SELWAY RECREATION RIVERS WILD
THREE DEVILS
RIVER
Big Hill
Lodge
Hot Pt
Pine Knob
The Horn
Big Cedar
Potato Hill
Lookout Butte
Goddard Pt
Hamby Saddle
Green Creek Pt
Wall Pt
Corral Hill
Switchback
China Pt
Baldy Mtn
NEZPERCE TRAIL
Pilot Rock
Pilot Knob
Big Burn Pt
Monument Hill
Silver Dome
PARALLEL
6TH
NEWSOME
Nugget Pt
Cougar Mtn
Reed Mtn
BEAR CR
LEGGETT

2. Natural Appearance

The brushfields are a natural and not uncommon result of past wildfires.

3. Solitude

This small area, with nearby logging activity, offers limited opportunity for solitude. Vegetative screening is high, however.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

The main opportunity here is bushwhacking and following game trails through dense brushfields. It is easy to get turned around in this country.

5. Wilderness Manageability & Boundaries

This area has been reduced by 14,824 acres since 1979, almost entirely because of timber sales. The area boundary is imprecise except where it coincides with the Forest boundary. It has been drawn to exclude existing roads from the remainder of the area.

The small size of this Area and its nearness to adjacent roads will probably result in more than normal use by recreationists, especially once it has been publicly identified as a "roadless area" in the Plan.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1844 are shown in Table C-16. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

Timber in the Clear Creek country is predominantly old-growth grand fir. Cedar is also present.

b. Recreation

Recreation use is mostly big-game hunting. There are several low-standard trails in the area, which have not been maintained in recent years.

c. Fish and Wildlife

Elk, moose, deer, bear, and cougar are found in Area 1844. The brushfields are important winter range.

Steelhead, rainbow trout, brook trout, and whitefish are found in Clear Creek. Although the drainage has been impacted by past timber sale activity and road building, the aquatic habitat remains in fair condition on National Forest land. Significant habitat degradation has occurred in that part of the creek between the Forest boundary and the mouth, since activities on private property

are not restricted. There is a chinook salmon hatchery near the mouth of the creek, although returning spring fish are not allowed to go upstream.

This area, taken together with Area 1849 to the south, is potential yearlong gray wolf habitat.

Table C-16
Selected Resource Values - Clear Creek Roadless Area 1844
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	11926	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	11876	Summer Habitat	Acres	3884
			Winter Habitat	Acres	7992
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	3884
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	11876	Winter Hab.	Acres	7992
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	3884
			Winter Hab.	Acres	7992
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	3150	Stream Miles	Miles	25
Allotments	No.	3			
AUMs	AUMs	140	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	28
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	
Tentative Suitable	Acres	11865	High	Acres	
Standing Volume	MBF	104860	Moderate	Acres	
			Low	Acres	11876
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	1
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	11876
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

d. Grazing and Range

Parts of three allotments are in this Area. The majority of the available forage is transitory, being generated from the large brushfields in the South Fork and Middle Fork drainages. The remainder of the Area is covered with old-growth cedar/grand fir stands with little available forage underneath except in the natural meadows and stream bottoms.

e. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in the area.

f. Non-Federal Lands

There is private land in the northwest corner of the Area - SW1/4, section 3, T 31 N, R 5 E.

2. Other Management Considerations

The old-growth grand fir and western redcedar stands are decadent. Heartrot, caused by Indianpaint fungus, is prevalent in the grand fir. Butt rot extending into the upper bole of the tree is common in the western redcedar. Other damaging agents are also present, but are minor problems. Fire frequency is very low in the Clear Creek drainage.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to the National Wilderness Preservation System

This area is representative of ecosystems common in nearby wilderness.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

Public interest in the area has focused on timber management and big-game habitat management.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-17, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

Table C-17
Management Emphasis-Clear Creek Roadless Area 1844 - 11,876 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	11.8	11.4	11.8	11.8	11.4	11.4	0	11.8	11.8	11.4	11.4
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.4	0	0	0	0.4	0.4
Minimum Level	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.9	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	3.4	2.9	3.8	5.1	3.3	2.9	0	4.3	4.0	3.5	3.5
Developed-Decade 5	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	0	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9
Roadless-Decade 1	8.5	9.0	8.1	6.8	8.6	9.0	0	7.6	7.9	8.4	8.4
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.9	0	0	0	0

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1844 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 104.8 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone. However, a large part of the area is in brushfields, and has little significant timber volume.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed. Maintenance of winter range is important in this area. Reliance on unplanned ignitions may not be sufficient, since much of the brushfield should be reburned soon to maintain quality winter range.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Hunters would not benefit if the winter range is allowed to deteriorate. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf habitat would be maintained if the prey base is maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within

three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area. Hunter access would be limited under wilderness classification.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in those parts of Clear Creek within the wilderness.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 96 and 100 percent of Roadless Area 1844 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1, which recommend the entire area for wilderness. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Between 2,900 acres (24 percent) and 5,100 acres (43 percent) would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and those alternatives (I and J) with large acreages of proposed wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximize outputs outside the wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (F, G, K, and L).

Area 1844 would be entered in five places in the first decade. These roads would be located in Sections 32, 28, 21, and 16, T31N, R6E, and Section 15, T31N, R5E. Actual mileages would depend on timber harvest objectives of each alternative. These roads would all be located in the head of Clear Creek and its tributaries, and timber harvest would be adjacent to them.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 2,900 acres, or 24 percent of the area, to roaded development in the first decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Area 1844 is potential gray wolf habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development provides for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase. Hunter access would be improved.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--At least 5 percent of the Clear Creek watershed would remain in old growth in all alternatives. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone by the fifth decade; however, over 6,700 acres of Area 1844 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade in any alternative.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L assign 440 acres of Area 1844 to this management emphasis. On-the-ground assessments may result in larger assignments. This acreage is mainly in riparian areas.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management. The riparian areas are maintained in their natural condition.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Economic and social effects of unroaded management in Area 1235 would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effect of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase, since 440 acres remain unroaded. Coordination with activities on nearby roaded lands would be necessary.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced somewhat because of difficult access. Potential for disturbance of sites would increase due to nearby roads.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would resemble that of the adjacent roaded development area.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, these areas would not contribute to stream sedimentation over natural rates.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact in these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management on an insignificant acreage. Only about 100 acres are assigned this management emphasis in any alternative.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change. However, because of the adjacent roaded development, the indirect impacts would be similar to the roaded development emphasis.

Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are built. If they are, effects would be similar to those of roaded development. If they are not, effects would resemble those of unroaded management. However, from the standpoint of potential wilderness, it should be assumed that areas with a minimum level management emphasis would eventually be roaded.

ROADLESS AREA 1845 - MEADOW CREEK

201,715 Acres

This is the largest roadless area on the Nez Perce National Forest, encompassing almost all of the Meadow Creek drainage. It joins the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness on the north and east, and is separated from the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness by a road on the south.

Area 1845 was evaluated in detail during previous wilderness studies as two subareas, 1845C and 1845D. That format is continued here. The wilderness recommendations for Area 1845 in the alternatives are done by subareas, but in at least one alternative both subareas are assigned to wilderness, and in at least one other both are assigned to nonwilderness. Thus, the entire area is considered for wilderness classification.

As a whole, this area contains nearly all features of the two adjacent wildernesses except low-elevation river break country. Meadow Creek is one of the largest streams in the Selway drainage, and it divides Area 1845 into two nearly equal parts. The Creek runs north and south for approximately 15 miles, then runs east and west for about 8 miles before turning north and south again to its source. Thus, a full range of aspects, elevations, and vegetative types is represented; and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding.

ROADLESS AREA 1845C -- Meadow Creek West

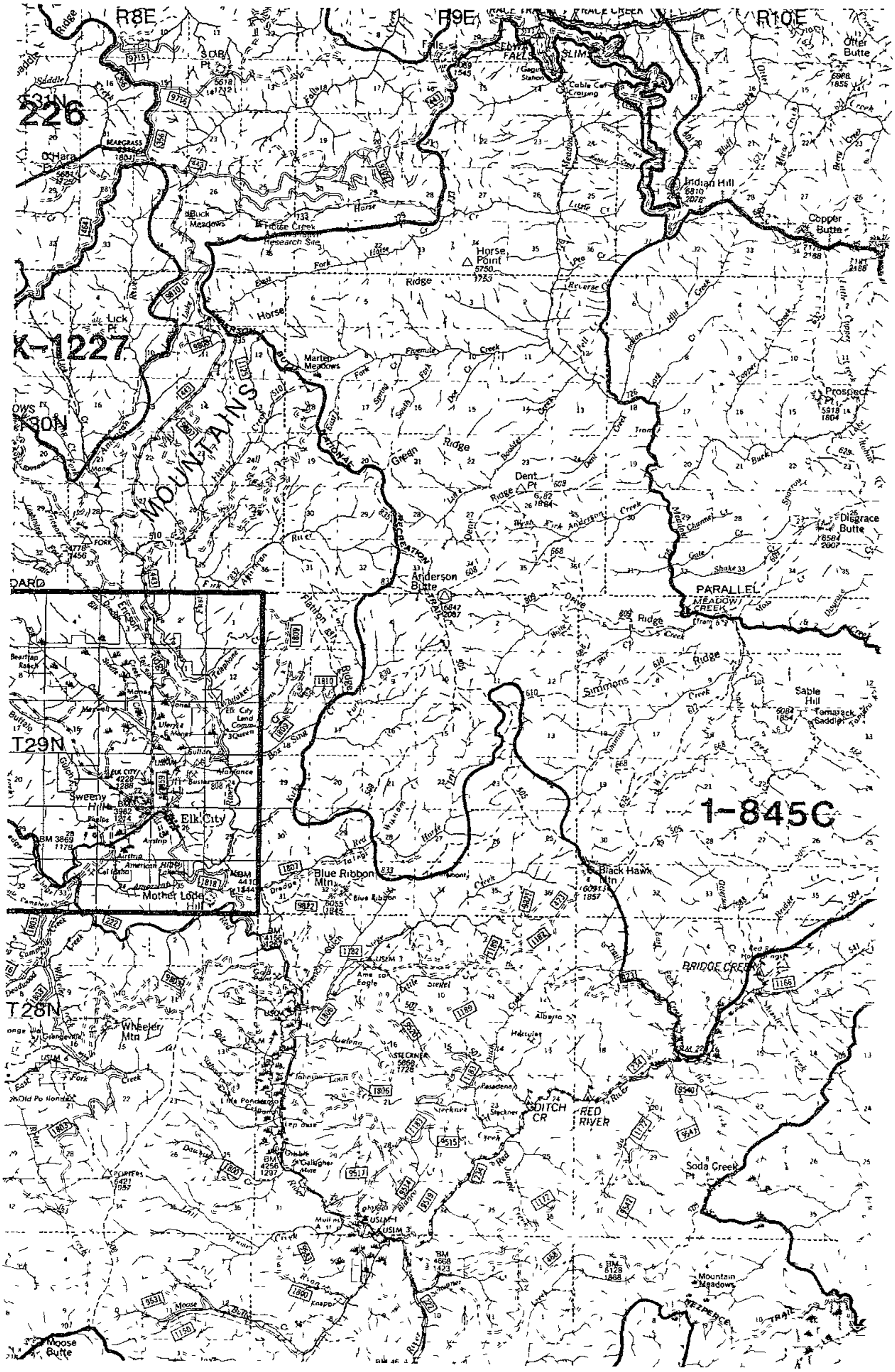
107,512 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

Meadow Creek is a principal tributary of the Selway River which enters about a mile above Selway Falls. Area 1845C is essentially the west side of the Meadow Creek drainage, although a few small streams drain into American River, a tributary of the South Fork of the Clearwater.

This area joins Roadless Area 1845D on the east and is separated by a road corridor from the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness on the south. The western boundary is, for the most part, the divide that separates the Selway and South Fork of the Clearwater drainages. Road access is by way of Road 443 on the north and west sides, and Roads 468 and 285 on the south.

The entire main stem of Meadow Creek above the junction with the East Fork is included in this area. Elevations range from about 1,800 feet at the trailhead on the northern boundary to 7,232 feet at Granite Peak. Slopes are steep, mostly facing east and north. As is characteristic of north and east exposures, vegetation in most parts of the area is dense, especially in the stream bottoms. Pacific yew is common, and thick. The head of Meadow Creek is open, however, with the meadows that give the Creek its name.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Indian Hill
Copper Butte
Horse Point
Lick Pt
Buck Meadows
Marten Meadows
Green Ridge
Dent Pt
Anderson Butte
Prospect Pt
Disgrace Butte
PARALLEL
Simmons Ridge
Sable Hill
Tamarack Saddle
Elk City
Sweeny Hill
Mother Lode Hill
Blue Ribbon Mtn
Black Hawk Mtn
BRIDGE CREEK
Wheeler Mtn
DITCH CR
RED RIVER
Soda Creek Pt
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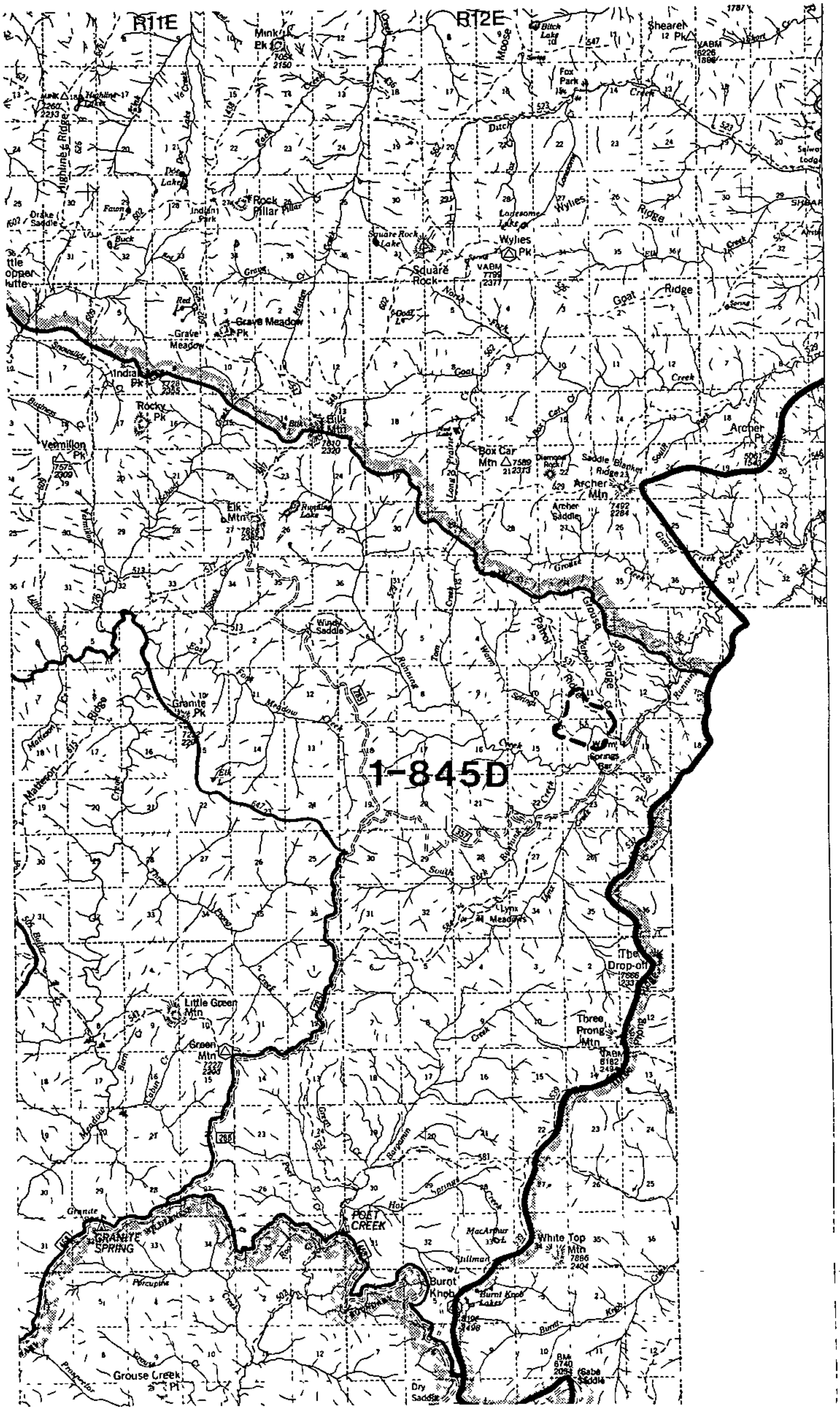
Moose Butte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R12E
Mink Pk
Shearer Pk
Fox Park
Highline Ridge
Rock Pillar
Indian Park
Square Rock Lake
Wylies Pk
Square Rock
Wylies Ridge
Goat Ridge
Grave Meadow Pk
Grave Meadow
Rocky Pk
Vermilion Pk
Bilk Mtn
Box Car Mtn
Saddle Blanket Ridge
Archer Mtn
Archer Saddle
Archer Pt
Elk Mtn
Running Lake
Windy Saddle
Granite Pk
Matteson Ridge
Grouse Ridge
Patrol Ridge
1-845D
Warm Springs Bar
Lynx Meadows
The Drop-off
Little Green Mtn
Green Mtn
Three Prong Mtn
Granite Spring
Post Creek
White Top Mtn
Burnt Knob
Burnt Knob Lakes
Grouse Creek Pt
Dry Saddle
Gabe Saddle

Virtually all of the upper Meadow Creek drainage burned in 1919, and much of it is now covered with thick reproduction. There are some stands of fir and spruce on lands that escaped this and other fires. Lodgepole pine and subalpine species are common at higher elevations.

Scenic areas include Anderson Butte and Meadow Creek. Sensitive wildlife occurring in the Area include gray wolves, elk, bald eagle, steelhead trout, chinook salmon, and possibly grizzly bears. One of the key attractions of this Area is the extremely high water quality of Meadow Creek. It is one of the very few streams left on the Forest with very excellent water quality and a productive anadromous fishery. Other special features are Green Mountain Lookout which is one of the older lookout locations on the Forest, Horse Point Lookout Site, Meadow Creek cabin, old sheep driveways, evidence of glaciation in the upper Meadow-Fourmile area, Meadow Creek and Anderson Butte National Recreation Trails, and the Nez Perce Trail.

Current uses include grazing, hiking, motorcycle riding, hunting, fishing, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and sightseeing along the Montana Road. One outfitter operates in the Area.

Under 36 CFR 219.17, roadless areas evaluated in previous unit plans, but not included in the last nationwide roadless area review and evaluation, must be reconsidered for wilderness classification. Two such areas, 1228 and 1229, share common boundaries with Area 1845C, and have been included in it.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the Area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Long-term ecological processes have been only slightly impacted in Area 1845C.

The area has a history of grazing. At one time, there were many sheep grazing allotments in Areas 1845C and 1845D. Stock driveways are shown on Forest maps as early as 1911, and large sheep allotments first appeared on Forest maps in 1920. Most likely, they were both established before these maps came out.

Although the effects of past sheep grazing have largely vanished, the effects of the stock driveways have not. They can be identified in the Meadow Creek Area and in the adjoining Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness because they go almost straight down one side of a hill and straight up the other side, and are cleared to a width of 50 feet. Erosion has left its mark on these sites, despite reconstruction of many of the driveways into graded trails.

Grazing today is much less extensive, concentrated mostly along the western boundary and around the meadows in the head of Meadow Creek.

2. Natural Appearance

The area as a whole is not heavily impacted, although some sites obviously are. The most noticeable sites are described below.

- Anderson Butte and Green Mountain Lookouts are both noticeable from parts of the area. Several other lookouts were present, but they have been removed.

- There are a few drift fences in the upper end of Meadow Creek.

- Trails, especially the old stock driveways and an old jeep trail from Blackhawk Mountain to Anderson Butte, have caused impacts. A few of these trails are heavily used, especially during hunting season. Motorcycle use is also common on some of the better trails.

- Past mining activity on the ridge between Three Prong Creek and the East Fork of Meadow Creek has resulted in about 100 acres of roads and pits. There are currently no claims in this area, and no activity.

  Human-caused developments are very obvious in Section 4, T 29 N, R 10 E, in the form of a complete custodial-era Forest Service ranger Station. This building was constructed in 1923 and has recently been restored. In addition to the small main cabin, there are three other buildings and a corral.

These are localized impacts. Overall, the area would appear natural to most visitors.

3. Solitude

This area, along with Roadless Area 1845D, the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness on the east and north, and the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness on the south, offers excellent opportunity for solitude. Topographic and vegetative screening are also significant.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

This area is not as diverse as Area 1845D across the creek. For example, there are no lakes. Challenges, too, are probably fewer than those found on the east side of the creek, but land navigation would be more difficult in some parts of this Area due to heavy vegetation and lack of recognizable landmarks. A person who broke a leg or suffered a similar mishap in this area might not be rescued, especially since some of the draws are too damp to build much of a fire.

The old Meadow Creek Ranger Station built in 1923 is accessible only by trail or helicopter. To some visitors, these buildings may seem an intrusion, an invasion of solitude; to others, they may seem to fit in perfectly with the surrounding area.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Since 1979, timber sales, roads, and acreage recalculations have accounted for an 8,918-acre reduction in this area. However, 21,050 acres were added when two smaller roadless areas not included in the last roadless area review and evaluation were combined with Area 1845C. Boundaries for the most part follow definite topographic features. The majority of the area is relatively uninfluenced by roads and other factors that would decrease the wilderness attributes. Manageability as wilderness would depend in part on the classification of Area 1845D to the east; that is, whether this area would be managed as a part of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, or as an isolated, independent wilderness. Costs per acre would, of course, be higher for a separate wilderness.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1845C are shown in Table C-18. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

Timber harvest in this area is for the most part confined to areas which escaped earlier wildfires. Thick reproduction is common.

b. Recreation

Trails 830 and 835 together make up the Anderson Butte National Recreation Trail, and furnish access from the west side of the area. Trail 809 from Anderson Butte to Meadow Creek is heavily used in hunting season. These trails receive minimum maintenance. A 55-foot native timber bridge was built across Meadow Creek at the end of Trail 809 in 1975 and 1976, replacing an unsafe tram and a ford that was impossible in high water and dangerous all of the time. This is the only trail bridge across Meadow Creek.

Other than hunting, recreation use is generally light.

c. Fish and Wildlife

Meadow Creek is a significant fishery. Both chinook salmon and steelhead trout inhabit Meadow Creek, while most of the tributaries to Meadow Creek support steelhead. *Some of the side drainages on the west side have obstacles* that prevent passage of anadromous fish. Meadow Creek gets little fishing pressure, and the west side tributaries get even less.

Mule and whitetail deer, elk, black bear, and moose inhabit Area 1845C. Pacific yew thickets furnish winter browse for moose. Sensitive wildlife occurring in the Area include gray wolves, elk, bald eagles, and grizzly bears. The potential for wolf recovery is excellent due to the roadless state, and high quality wolf habitat. The Area contains some very productive elk summer range. The elk winter rage is low in productivity and is in need of logging and/or prescribed burning to regenerate winter forage. Other

threatened and endangered plant and animal species may be found although a thorough search has not been made.

Table C-18
Selected Resource Values - West Meadow Creek Roadless Area 1845C
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	107512	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	107512	Summer Habitat	Acres	97490
			Winter Habitat	Acres	10022
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	97490
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	107512	Winter Hab.	Acres	10022
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	97490
			Winter Hab.	Acres	10022
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	3450	Stream Miles	Miles	116
Allotments	No.	6			
AUMs	AUMs	292	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	112
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	1000			
AUMs	AUMs	100	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	
Tentative Suitable	Acres	90225	High	Acres	
Standing Volume	MBF	1260000	Moderate	Acres	23040
			Low	Acres	84482
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	0
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	107512
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	95068	Leases	No.	0
Grizzly Bear			Leased Area	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	95068			

d. Range and Grazing

There are parts of six grazing allotments in this Area with a mix of primary and transitory range consisting of 3,450 suitable acres and 292 AUMs.

e. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in the area except Meadow Creek Ranger Station, although the existence of old cabins is suspected.

f. Non-Federal Lands

There are no non-Federal lands in the area.

g. Facilities

Meadow Creek Ranger Station is located on the east side of Meadow Creek adjacent to Roadless Area 1845D.

There are four buildings on the site: the station itself, a 22x28-foot log structure with a kitchen, two bedrooms and a small office; a 15x20-foot bunkhouse with a loft; a log tack room of about the same dimensions; and a small pole and shake woodshed. The station was built in 1923, the tack room in 1925, and the bunkhouse in 1930. The main building was completely renovated in 1983, and the other buildings were repaired in 1984.

Facilities of the Horse Creek Administrative-Research project are present in the East Fork of Horse Creek. This project, begun in the late 1960s, will furnish better data on stream sedimentation caused by road construction. Although the major part of this activity is in the Main Fork and not in the roadless area, the East Fork is the control drainage for the research activities. Climatic, streamflow, and sediment-measuring instruments are installed in the East Fork near the confluence with the Main Fork. The control drainage will not be disturbed until the completion of the research project.

2. Other Management Considerations

There is a large root rot complex in the upper Meadow-Fourmile area. Large expanses of younger lodgepole pine are in need of thinning to maintain stand health. Otterson Creek area has jumbled topography which would make road building expensive and difficult. Brushfields in the Sable Hill area are starting to regenerate to tree cover.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See Introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The ecosystems in this area are well represented in other wilderness on the Nez Perce National Forest.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

This area was split away from the East Meadow Creek Roadless Area (1845D) in 1979, and recommended for nonwilderness. Some environmental groups who then advocated wilderness for East Meadow Creek now want to add all lands in 1845C east of the main fork of Meadow Creek to proposed wilderness, although this is not a formal recommendation. Others would like to see all of West Meadow Creek classified as wilderness. Proposals for activities scheduled in Area 1845C have been carefully studied by environmental groups, especially those activities in the head of Meadow Creek.

The Idaho Wildlife Federation and the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association recommend wilderness classification. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game recommends "semi-roadless" management. Local public opinion remains heavily against any more wilderness on the Nez Perce.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has identified the area as potential gray wolf habitat. They want to manage this area with a threatened and endangered species emphasis. They want part of the area managed without additional roads for the first decade. Part of the area can be managed with roads, but the USFWS wants them permanently closed at completion of the project.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-19, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

Area 1845C is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H, H1 and I. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only. This large expanse of land with high opportunities for solitude would be maintained in its natural condition.

Timber management possibilities on about 90,225 tentatively suitable acres, including harvest of approximately 1,260 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone.

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed. However, much of the winter habitat in Meadow Creek is on the east side of the creek and not in Area 1845C.

Table C-19
Management Emphasis-Meadow Creek West Roadless Area 1845C - 107,512 Acres (Thousand Acres)

Management Emphasis	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	101.7	0	101.7	101.7	98.2	98.2	0	0	101.7	98.2	98.2
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	107.5	0	0	3.5	3.5	0	0	0	3.5	3.5
Minimum Level	5.8	0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0	5.8	5.8	5.8
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	107.5	107.5	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	29.2	0	32.8	44.3	28.8	0	0	0	34.6	30.5	30.5
Developed-Decade 5	107.5	0	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	0	0	107.5	107.5	107.5
Roadless-Decade 1	78.3	107.5	74.7	63.2	78.7	107.5	0	0	72.9	77.0	77.0
Roadless-Decade 5	0	107.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	107.5	107.5	0	0	0

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability,

threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat would be maintained or enhanced.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area. Hunter access would be similar to that presently available.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 90 and 100 percent of Roadless Area 1845C is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H, H1, I, and C. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 1,260 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives, although the landforms in Area 1845C are steep, and sufficient volume is not present in some places. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 28,800 acres and 44,300 acres would be opened to roaded development in the first decade except in Alternatives G and G1. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in that alternative (J) with a large acreage of proposed wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximizes outputs outside of the wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (F, K, and L).

Area 1845C would be entered in six places in the first decade except in Alternatives G and G1. Two of these entries would be on the north side of Horse Creek in Section 21, T31N, R9E.

An extensive entry would be made in Section 18, T30N, R9E. This system would open up the Fivemile drainage, and would cross the head of the West Fork and end in Spring Creek. Another fork would cross Green Ridge and the head of Little Boulder Creek and end on Dent Ridge.

Three entries would be made in T29N, R9E; these are in Sections 11, 14, and 23. One fork would run into the head of Butte Creek and would extend out Simmons Ridge; the others would open up the head of Simmons Creek.

Actual mileage would depend on timber harvest objectives of each alternative. Under Alternatives D and E, which maximize timber harvest Forestwide, additional entries would be necessary in Section 33, T28N, R10E, which would run down the ridge between the Red River and Meadow Creek drainages.

In Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, roaded development would not be scheduled during the first decade, but the area would be opened to timber management in the second decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Area 1845C is

potential gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase. The Anderson Butte National Recreation Trail would not be affected.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation is utilized. Removing trees from a site would increase the production of forbs, grasses, and shrubs that provide forage for wintering big-game animals. Therefore, carrying capacity of big-game winter ranges would increase in proportion to the number of acres of winter range that are harvested each year.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction and in Meadow Creek. However, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Old growth would be reduced, but not below minimum management requirements. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone by the fifth decade; however, about 63,200 acres of Area 1845C would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

All of Roadless Area 1845C is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternative C; and 3,500 acres, 3 percent of the area, are assigned to it in Alternatives F, G, G1, K, and L. This acreage is mostly in riparian areas.

All present uses could continue. Big-game habitat improvement using planned ignitions of prescribed fire could be carried out. Mechanical equipment could be used.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas or parts of roadless areas has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management if the unroaded acreage is large, and similar to roaded development if the acreage is small and scattered.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber and mining industries would not be supported under this management emphasis, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates also would not be supported, since no part of the area is recommended for classification. However, the area would be maintained in natural condition under Alternative C.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels without coordination if the entire area remains roadless. Habitat would be maintained, but coordination would be necessary if roaded development areas are nearby.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access and disturbance of sites would be minimal if the entire area remains roadless. If it does not, the reverse would be true.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained on roadless acreage.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low in a large unroaded area. Animals would be secure. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential. Coordination would be required if the roadless acreages are located adjacent to roaded development.

- Visual Quality--The roadless area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation above natural rates could not occur.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact. Large roadless acreages maintain wilderness qualities.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management; 5,800 acres, 5 percent of the area, are assigned this management emphasis in all alternatives except C, H, H1, and I. These areas are not contiguous.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change. However, unique qualities of these areas should be retained or only moderately impacted.

Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are built. If they are, effects would be similar to those of roaded development. If they are not, effects would resemble to those of unroaded management. However, from the standpoint of potential wilderness, it should be assumed that areas with a minimum level management emphasis would eventually be roaded.

ROADLESS AREA 1845D -- Meadow Creek East

94,203 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area joins the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness on the east and is separated from the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness by a road corridor on the south. It is located on the east side of Meadow Creek, a principal tributary of the Selway River, and includes the headwaters of Running Creek, which flows into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, and Bargamin Creek, which flows into the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness.

The area can be reached by Indian Hill Road 290, which ends at the northern boundary; Running Creek Road 257 and Elk Mountain Road 285, which enter the area from the west; and the "Montana" Road 468, which is the southern boundary. These roads are not surfaced, and can be hazardous when wet. The Elk Mountain road forks within the area. One fork runs 17 miles and deadends near Elk Mountain. The other deadends at Warm Springs Bar, 12 miles from the junction. Driving time from Grangeville to most trailheads is 3 to 4 hours.

Elevation ranges from 2,420 feet on Meadow Creek to 8,200 feet at Burnt Knob. This area is similar in topography and vegetation to the adjacent wildernesses.

Slopes are characteristically steep throughout the area, especially toward the lower end of Meadow Creek, but there are exceptions. For example, the country opens up in the heads of some of the larger side drainages such as Schwar Creek; and Disgrace Ridge, between Buck Lake Creek and Schwar Creek, is almost flat for over 5 miles.

This area contains lakes, talus slopes, avalanche chutes, hot springs, rocky peaks, open alpine meadows, varied stream bottoms, and other features commonly associated with wilderness. Vegetation runs from cedar and grand fir in the creek bottoms to ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on mid-slopes to lodgepole pine and subalpine fir at higher elevations. Threatened and endangered plant species may exist; a thorough survey has not been made.

Burnt Knob and 3 Prong Ridge are scenic features (alpine glaciation) visible from most points in the area. Other scenic or special features in this area include areas along meadow creek, alpine larch stands, and the Meadow Creek National Recreation Trail. Threatened and Endangered wildlife species include the gray wolf and grizzly bear.

Current uses of the area include fishing, motorcycle riding, horseback riding, hunting, backpacking, camping, hiking, snowmobiling, and sightseeing. Three outfitters operate in the area.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Human impacts on this area have been very light. A few sections of trail are heavily eroded, but most are not. Overall, long-term ecological processes are intact and operating naturally.

2. Natural Appearance

Since there have been so few human impacts, the area appears natural by almost any criterion. A few trails are noticeable. Although many lookout towers were built in the area, they are all gone now. The only remains are a few burned nails and pieces of melted glass on some mountain tops. Spans of telephone wire that have never been rolled up and packed out can be found along some trails. Distant roads and clearcuts can be seen from the highest elevations in the area.

3. Solitude

Area 1845D joins the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church-River of No Return Wildernesses and, together, offers an opportunity for solitude possibly unmatched in the lower 48 states. Although other people can be encountered on trails and at popular camping spots, there are many places where the probability of encountering others is almost zero.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunities

There are no comfort and convenience facilities in Area 1845D except a few undeveloped campsites and the already-mentioned substandard trails. This area and the neighboring wilderness make up an undeveloped roadless expanse of over three million acres. There is plenty of diversity of opportunity and challenge once the visitor leaves the established trails. Vegetation, terrain, lakes, streams, and climate vary markedly. Meadow Creek and some of the larger tributaries are difficult and hazardous to cross except when the water is very low. Throughout, the opportunity for risk-taking is significant.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Boundaries are well-defined, and follow major topographical features such as streams and ridges. With few exceptions, boundaries would be fairly easy to locate on the ground. Many are trails.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1845D are shown in Table C-20. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

The middle elevation zones contain stands of ponderosa pine on southern and western exposures. Cedar is present in the lower creek bottoms, and lodgepole and subalpine species prevail at the higher elevations.

b. Recreation

A trail network built in the 1920s and 1930s exists in the area. Some of these trails are reconstructed stock driveways dating back to 1900-1915. Fifteen miles of Trail 726, which follow Meadow Creek upstream from the mouth, have been designated a National Recreation Trail. It is an easy trail compared to those that climb out of the creek bottom, and receives somewhat more maintenance work than the other trails in the area. Several bridges have been built on this trail in recent years, but major reconstruction will be required to bring it to standard. It is popular with backpackers early in the season when high country trails are still blocked with snow. It is often used by fishermen and is sometimes used by motorcyclists in the summer, and is heavily used during the fall hunting season. A few cougar hunters use it in the winter.

Table C-20
Selected Resource Values - East Meadow Creek Roadless Area 1845D
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	94203	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	94203	Summer Habitat	Acres	88039
			Winter Habitat	Acres	6164
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	88039
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	94203	Winter Hab.	Acres	6164
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	88039
			Winter Hab.	Acres	6164
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	0	Stream Miles	Miles	94
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	91
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	72033	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	772048	Moderate	Acres	21510
			Low	Acres	72693
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	0
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	94203
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	94203	Leases	No.	0
Grizzly Bear			Leased Area	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	94203			

c. Fish and Wildlife

Meadow Creek is bigger than some streams that are called rivers on the Nez Perce Forest. In fact, on some of the original maps of the Forest it is called the South Fork of the Selway. Meadow Creek has more miles of significant fishery than any other roadless area on the Forest. The potential spawning and rearing habitat available for anadromous species in the drainage has been estimated at over 41 acres. Healthy populations of rainbow trout, steelhead trout, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden exist throughout the area. The fish are small, but plentiful. Water quality is very high.

Mule and whitetail deer, elk, black bear, and moose inhabit Area 1845D. The west-facing slopes along lower Meadow Creek are important winter range. Elk populations are not as large as they were 20 years ago, but recent winter counts by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game indicate numbers are increasing. The area is also possible grizzly bear habitat. The endangered Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf may inhabit the area based on suitability of habitat and unconfirmed sightings. Numerous species of birds and nongame animals are also found in the area, including some not often seen, such as varied thrushes and wolverines.

d. Minerals

There are no mining claims in the area, and there is no patented ground. About 160 acres in Section 23, T 29 N, R 11 E has been impacted by past mining activity.

e. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in the area.

f. Non-Federal Lands

All land is National Forest land.

2. Other Management Considerations

A Research Natural Area is proposed in Sections 11, 14, and 15, T29N, R12E. This 1,000-acre area, in the vicinity of Warm Springs near Running Creek, will meet Regional targets for including a representative hot spring and associated vegetation in the RNA network.

Wildlife habitat will be improved by prescribed burning.

There is a lack of potential commercial timber production.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

Almost all features of this roadless area are represented in other wildernesses on the Nez Perce National Forest. The chief contribution of wilderness classification would be to increase the size of either the Selway-Bitterroot or the Frank Church-River of No Return Wildernesses.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

In the past, local, regional, and national groups have shown interest in this area. As a result of previous wilderness studies, Area 1845D was separated from lands on the west side of Meadow Creek and recommended for wilderness classification in 1979. The Administration proposed the area to Congress, but wilderness classification was rejected at the time the Central Idaho Wilderness Act was passed.

Area 1845D means different things to different people. To some individuals and members of wilderness groups, it means an addition to the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. To motorcyclists, it means a challenging, creek-bottom trail. To early season backpackers, it means a place to go when the high country is still snowed in. To commercial outfitters, it means a place that is pleasing to their clients, yet is a place where they use chainsaws to cut wood and open trails. To industry groups, it means commercial forest land. In short, these users, and others, see the area as a place where their special interests can be served.

Although wilderness designation was denied by Congress in 1980, environmental groups still view 1845D as an area of high wilderness values, and remain interested in how it is managed. They advocate at least continue roadless management. The Idaho Wildlife Federation and the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association recommend this area for wilderness classification.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game recommends that Area 1845D remain roadless and fisheries be managed at 100 percent - the only such level recommended on the Forest.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified Area 1845 as important T&E species habitat.

Industry groups want all of Area 1845 included in the timber base.

Local public opinion is heavily against any more wilderness on the Nez Perce National Forest.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-21, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1845D is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H, H1, I, J, K, and L. This recommendation would increase opportunities for

primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only. The lakes, talus slopes, avalanche chutes, hot springs, rocky peaks, and other wilderness features would be preserved in the natural condition.

Table C-21
Management Emphasis-Meadow Creek East Roadless Area 1845D - 94,203 Acres (Thousand Acres)

	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	71.3	0	71.3	71.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	93.2	0	0	93.2	93.2	0	0	0	0	0
Minimum Level	21.9	0	21.9	21.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Research Natural Area	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	94.2	94.2	94.2	94.2	94.2
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	20.7	0	23.1	31.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Developed-Decade 5	93.2	0	93.2	93.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Roadless-Decade 1	73.5	94.2	71.1	62.9	94.2	94.2	0	0	0	0	0
Roadless-Decade 5	1.0	94.2	1.0	1.0	94.2	94.2	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	94.2	94.2	94.2	94.2	94.2

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 772 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone. The ponderosa pine stands are of high value.

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but mineral development could continue on existing valid claims and leases.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed. The east side of Meadow Creek is important winter range, and reliance on unplanned ignitions may not be sufficient to maintain it.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. However, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation, mainly the outfitters who operate in the area, would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Potential gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat would be maintained or enhanced.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--High water quality would be maintained in streams on the east side of Meadow Creek.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Approximately 75 percent, 71,300 acres, of Roadless Area 1845D is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives A, D, and E. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Between 20,700 acres, 22 percent of the area, and 31,300 acres, 33 percent of the area, would be opened to roaded development in the first decade.

Area 1845D would be entered from existing roads 468 and 285. One major harvest area would be in the head of Bargamin Creek off Road 468. New construction would depart from Road 285 in Section 1, T28N, R11E, and generally follow the divide between Running Creek and Lynx Creek to a junction with Road 257. Spurs would run from this arterial into the harvest areas.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, assigns this area to be managed without additional roads.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber and mining industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation, mainly outfitters, would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction and habitat management would be required. Area 1845D is potential gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase; however, the Meadow Creek National Recreation Trail would not be affected.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Adequate old-growth would remain in Area 1845D. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone by the fifth decade; however, nearly 63,000 acres of Area 1845D would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
   Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

All of Roadless Area 1845D is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives C, F, G, and G1.

All present uses of the area could continue. Big-game habitat improvement projects using planned ignitions of prescribed fire could be accomplished. Chainsaws and trail bikes could be used.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management if large acreages are involved, as is the case with Area 1845D.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Individuals and groups advocating either wilderness or roaded development would be supported to a limited extent. The area would not be classified, but essential wilderness characteristics would be retained. Timber harvest would not be precluded, but it would have to be accomplished without roads. Outfitters would benefit.

Effect of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low. Animals would be secure. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation could be held to present rates.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain nearly intact.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription calls for a maintenance-only level of management. Alternatives A, D, and E, the roaded development alternatives, assign 21,900 acres, or about 23 percent of the area, to this management emphasis. Much of this acreage is subalpine land not suitable for timber production.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change. However, it is unlikely that these acreages would be roaded.

Effects on nonpriced resource values would depend on whether or not roads are built. Since road construction is improbable, effects would remain similar to those now present.

e. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Research Natural Area

This prescription is assigned to 1,000 acres of Area 1845D in all alternatives. Management of Research Natural Areas excludes activities which directly or indirectly modify ecological processes. Logging is prohibited, and no new roads are planned. Fire suppression is accomplished by manual means. In effect, wilderness characteristics are retained.

ROADLESS AREA 1847 -- MALLARD

23,232 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area is immediately above the Salmon River breaks, and includes most of Big Mallard Creek. The Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness borders this area on the south and east, the Nez Perce trail is part of the north boundary, and roads form most of the boundary on the west and north.

Access is via Roads 421, 468, and 9550. Road 468 follows the route of the Nez Perce Trail, which was used long before Lewis and Clark as a passage over the Bitterroot Range.

Area 1847 consists of rolling hills, lightly to moderately dissected, with fairly low stream gradients until nearing the Salmon River breaks. Big Mallard Creek is the principal drainage. Elevation ranges from 5,200 feet at the East Fork of Mallard Creek to 7,648 feet at Boston Mountain. There is evidence of glaciation in the northeast portion of the Area.

The ecosystem type ranges from Engelmann spruce-alpine fir in the wet areas and draws in the upper Slide and Mallard Creek areas to ponderosa pine-Douglas-fir in the lower Mallard and Cup Creek areas. Lodgepole pine dominates dryer ridges and exposed aspects across the entire Area, and high mountain meadows occupy sites along Big Mallard Creek.

This Area contains a lot of lodgepole pine over 80 years old and greater than 8 inches in diameter, growing at elevations under 6,200 feet. These trees are especially vulnerable to attacks by mountain pine beetles, a species that has already caused widespread damage to the timber resource in nearby drainages.

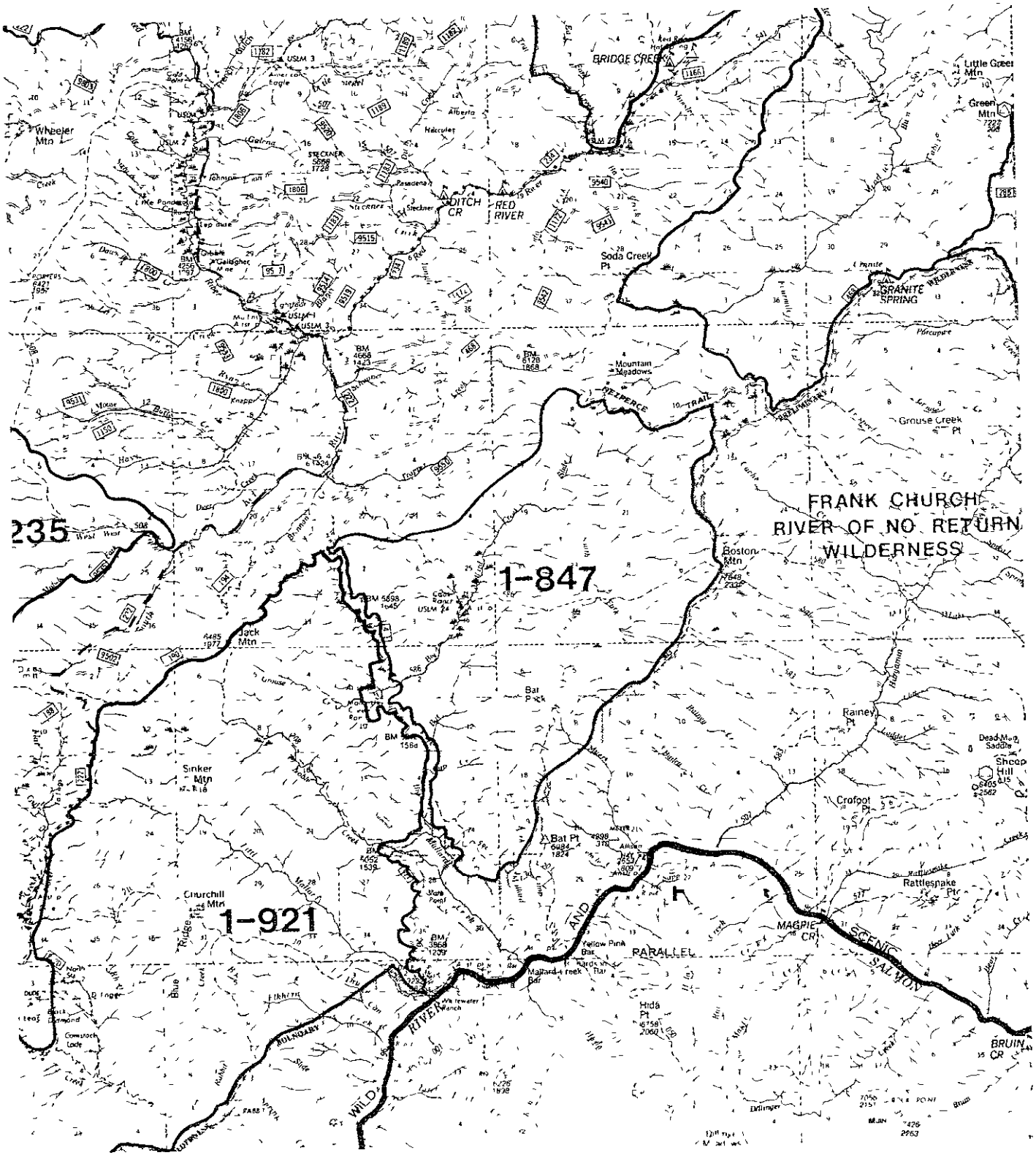
Recreation uses include fishing, hunting, camping, horseback riding, hiking, and snowmobiling. One outfitter operates in the Area. The Area is also used for grazing in the meadows.

The Cook Ranch consisting of two adjoining homesteads in Big Mallard Meadows patented in 1919 and 1924, is located about a mile inside the area. There are four buildings on this 141-acre site. An airport was built in the nearby meadow some years ago. An old jeep trail runs from Road 421 to the ranch, but no motorized traffic is allowed on it.

B. CAPABILITY

1. Natural Integrity

Natural processes operate to a high degree in this area. Except for the Cook Ranch and several trails, there are few impacts.


FRANK CHURCH
RIVER OF NO RETURN
WILDERNESS
I-847
I-921
235
BRIDGE CREEK
DITCH CR
RED RIVER
Soda Creek Pt
GRANITE SPRING
Mountain Meadows
NEZPERCE TRAIL
Grouse Creek Pt
Boston Mtn
Rainey Pt
Sheep Hill
Crofoot Pt
Rattlesnake Pt
Bat Pt
Sinker Mtn
Churchill Mtn
Wheeler Mtn
Little Green Mtn
Green Mtn
Jack Mtn
Yellow Pine Bar
Hida Pt
MAGPIE CR
SCENIC
SALMON
RIVER
WILD
AND
PARALLEL
BOLDORADO
BRUIN CR

2. Natural Appearance

Here again, except for the buildings, fences, and airport at the Cook Ranch, the area would appear natural to most people.

3. Solitude

When this area is taken together with the adjacent Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, opportunities for solitude are outstanding, even though there are off-site intrusions near the boundary in the forms of roads, and on-site intrusions caused by airplanes and other activities at the Cook Ranch.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

Diversity and challenge are outstanding when this area is taken together with the adjoining existing wilderness. Developed recreation facilities are limited to the Cook Ranch, a private facility.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

The boundary of this area was adjusted in 1983 to account for a proposed timber sale; however, this area was never logged or roaded. Because of this, the boundary of Area 1847 was adjusted back to the original RARE II boundary.

Area 1847 could be managed as a part of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness at about the same cost per acre as that wilderness.

The Cook Ranch would present a problem in wilderness administration. If boundaries were adjusted to exclude it, the size of the area would be considerably reduced.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1847 are shown in Table C-22. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

Timber in Area 1847 is predominantly lodgepole pine, except for areas adjacent to the wilderness boundary which contain ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir. Spruce is found in the Slide Creek area.

b. Recreation

Recreation activity in this area is associated mainly with big-game hunting, with some fishing in the summer.

Table C-22
Selected Resource Values - Mallard Roadless Area 1847
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	23373	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	23232	Summer Habitat	Acres	23189
			Winter Habitat	Acres	43
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	23189
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	23232	Winter Hab.	Acres	43
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	23189
			Winter Hab.	Acres	43
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	485	Stream Miles	Miles	43
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	175	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	42
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	200			
AUMs	AUMs	20	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	21036	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	234900	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	23232
Corridor			Mining Claims	No.	0
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	23232
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	23232	Leases	No.	0
Grizzly Bear			Leased Area	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	23232			

c. Fish and Wildlife

Big Mallard Creek does not contain anadromous fish: a waterfall in the lower part of the creek blocks fish passage. The creek does contain a population of cutthroat, rainbow, and brook trout. The area is elk, deer, and moose summer range, and potential gray wolf habitat. Based on suitability of habitat and unconfirmed sightings, it is felt that the endangered Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf and grizzly bear may inhabit the Area. It also contains potential nesting habitat for peregrine falcons.

d. Grazing

Parts of two allotments lie within this Area. Cattle are grazed in this Area under term permit.

e. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in the area.

f. Non-Federal Lands

The Cook Ranch, a private tract, is discussed in Sections A and B.

2. Other Management Considerations

The Cook Ranch (HES 241 & 242) located in the west central part of the Area could present a problem in wilderness administration.

Most of the Engelmann spruce-alpine fir component is mature to overmature, with increasing mortality rates.

The 80-year-old lodgepole pine is vulnerable to attacks by the mountain pine beetle. Widespread damage has already occurred to the timber resource in nearby drainages. There is also some root rot activity in the southern part of the Area.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The main contribution of this area would be to increase the size of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

There has been interest in making this area a wilderness, and it was a part of the wilderness study which eventually led to establishment of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. This area was considered for wilderness and excluded by Congress when that Wilderness was created.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game recommends roaded management with the northern parts managed at limited entry.

The Inland Forest Resource Council recommends management for the timber resource.

The Idaho Wildlife Federation and the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association recommend wilderness classification.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified the area as potential gray wolf and peregrine falcon habitat. They want to manage this area with a threatened and endangered species emphasis without additional roads for the first decade.

There has been considerable public interest in keeping this area roadless; however, local public opinion remains heavily against any more wilderness on the Forest.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-23, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1847 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H, H1, I, and J. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 234.9 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone. Much of the timber is mature lodgepole pine.

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. However, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation, such as outfitting, would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Table C-23
Management Emphasis-Mallard Roadless Area 1847 - 23,232 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	23.1	22.3	23.1	23.1	0	22.3	0	6.0	6.0	22.3	22.3
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.8	0	0	23.2	0.8	0	0	0	0.8	0.8
Minimum Level	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	23.2	17.2	17.2	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	4.9	4.0	5.5	1.4	0	4.1	0	0	0	5.0	5.0
Developed-Decade 5	23.2	23.2	23.2	23.2	0	23.2	0	6.0	6.0	23.2	23.2
Roadless-Decade 1	18.3	19.2	17.7	21.8	23.2	19.1	0	6.0	6.0	18.2	18.2
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	23.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	23.2	17.2	17.2	0	0

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf, grizzly bear, and peregrine falcon habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--The area is not an anadromous fishery; however, cutthroat, rainbow, and brook trout populations would be unimpacted.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 96 and 99 percent of Roadless Area 1847 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except F, H, H1, I, and J. Approximately 26 percent of Roadless Area 1847 is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives I and J. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 234.9 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest in all alternatives except F, H, H1, I, and J. Approximately 60.8 MMBF would be available for harvest in Alternatives I and J. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 1,400 and 5,500 acres, 6 to 24 percent of the area, would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D) and which continue current direction (A).

Area 1847 would be entered in two places in the first decade. One entry would be in the head of Slide Creek in Section 8, T27N, R10E. The other entry would be in Section 14, T26N, R9E, near the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness boundary, which would open Cup Creek and several tributaries of Big

Mallard Creek. Actual mileages would depend on the timber harvest objectives of each alternative.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 4,100 acres, 18 percent of the area, to roaded development in the first decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Any nearby timber harvest could detract from the Cook Ranch's value as a recreation facility. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded development management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction and habitat management would be required. Area 1847 is potential gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase. Hunting access would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms. Only about 3 miles of Big Mallard Creek is spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous fish.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Habitat would remain adequate for old-growth-dependent species. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 17,000 acres of Area 1847 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade. Some of this acreage would adjoin the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and could be added to it.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

All of Roadless Area 1847 is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternative F and 800 acres of it are so assigned in Alternatives C, G, G1, K, and L.

All present uses could continue. Timber harvest would be allowed, but without roads. The smaller acreages are generally located in riparian areas.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas or parts of roadless areas has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management if the acreages are large. If they are small, effects are similar to those of roaded development.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. If management of the entire area is accomplished without roads, industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit, but timber and mining industries would not benefit.

Economic and social effects of unroaded management of the lesser acreages would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effect of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels and habitat would be maintained if the entire area remains roadless.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access, and disturbance of sites would be minimal if the entire area is unroaded. If it is not, the reverse would be true.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--If the entire area is unroaded, the need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at nearly 100 percent of potential. If the roadless acreages are small and dispersed, increased coordination would be necessary.

- Visual Quality--The unroaded area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation above natural rates would not originate in unroaded areas.

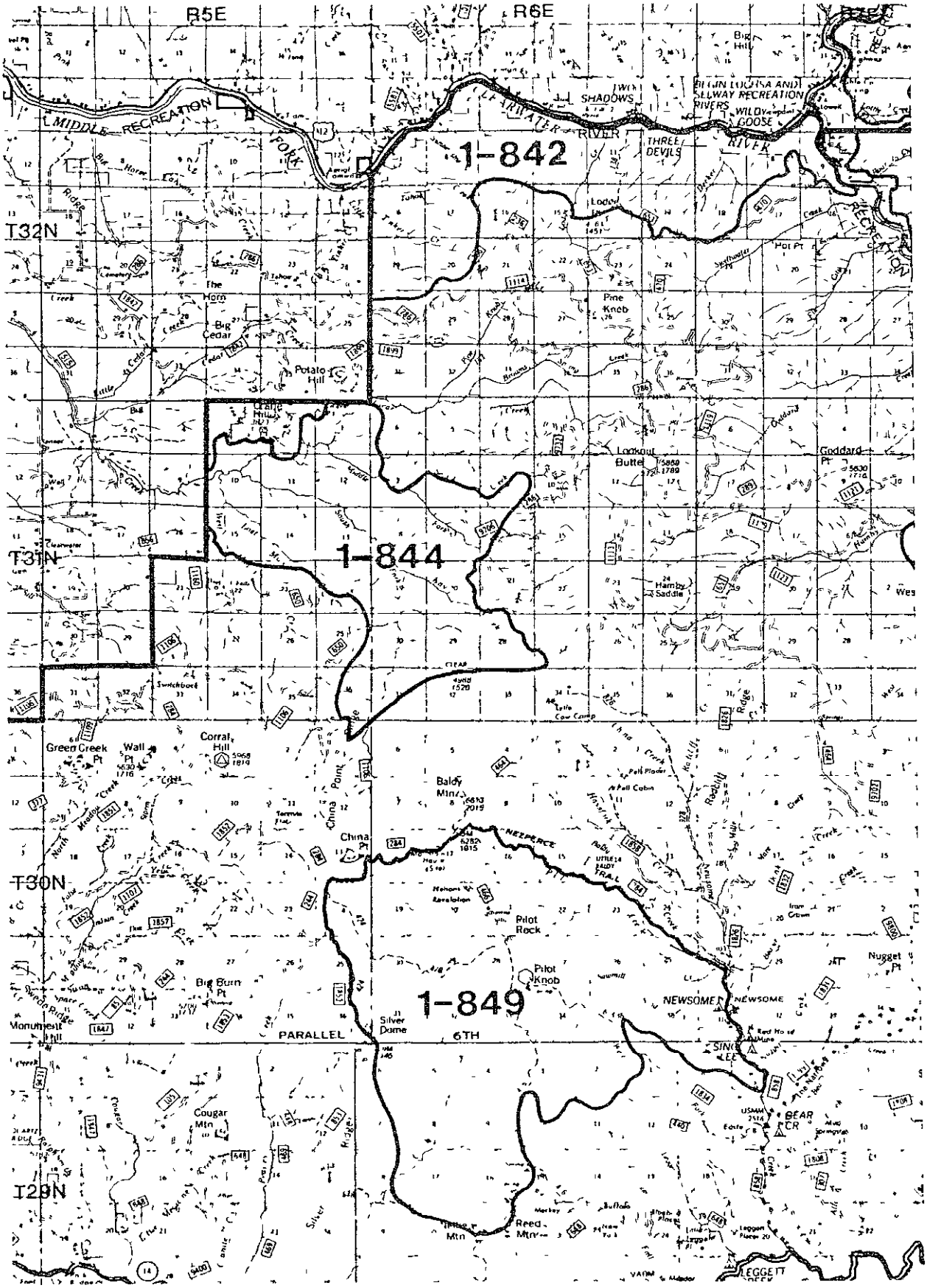
- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact if the entire area is unroaded. Roadless acres adjoining the Wilderness could be added to it.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management on an insignificant acreage in all alternatives except F, H, H1, I, and J.

Since roads may or may not be constructed, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change; however, these acreages are so small few effects would result in any event.


R5E
R6E
I-842
I-844
I-849
T32N
T31N
T30N
T29N
MIDDLE FORK RECREATION
CLEARWATER RIVER
THREE DEVILS
RECREATION
Big Hill
Pine Knob
Potato Hill
Lookout Butte
Goddard Pt
Hamby Saddle
Green Creek Pt
Wall Pt
Corral Hill
China Pt
Baldy Mtn
NEZPERCE
Pilot Rock
Pilot Knob
Big Burn Pt
Monument Hill
Silver Dome
PARALLEL
6TH
NEWSOME
Nugget Pt
Cougar Mtn
Reed Mtn
BEAR CR
LEGGETT

ROADLESS AREA 1849 -- SILVER CREEK-PILOT KNOB

21,034 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area includes the upper two-thirds of Silver Creek and several small tributaries of Newsome Creek. Roads 1853, 244, 284, 1858, and 1834 border this Area on all of the north side and parts of the east and west sides. Road 466 enters the area from the north and runs 4.5 miles to Pilot Knob Lookout. Two short spurs extend from this road, one to an old mine.

The elevation ranges from approximately 4,000 feet at the lowest point in Newsome Creek to 7,000 feet at Pilot Rock. Topography is uniformly rolling with uniform forest cover. The Pilot Knob/Pilot Rock ridge is a highly visible landmark in the center of the Area with rock outcrops, meadows, and timber providing a visually pleasing mosaic. Drainages form a dendritic pattern.

Vegetation types are diverse. Old-growth grand fir stands are prevalent next to Newsome Creek. Subalpine fir habitat types, currently dominated by lodgepole pine, are found near Nellie Mountain and Reed Mountain. Moist grand fir and subalpine fir types cover the majority of the Area. Small, wet openings dominated by Sitka spruce and alder are scattered throughout the Silver Creek drainage.

A key visual attraction in this Area is Pilot Rock, a massive, bare rock formation almost in the center of the Area. There is easy walking access from the lookout to the top of this formation. Pilot Rock is reported to be an ancient "vision quest" site for the Nez Perce Indian Tribe. Other attractions include several large, natural meadows below China Point and at Mountain House site. There are also a few remnants of early day mining along Newsome Creek, but nothing that would require special considerations.

The mining frontier arrived in this area in 1861, only a year after the first gold discoveries in Idaho. John Newsome's company started panning about the same time that gold fever hit Elk City. By August 1861, over 300 miners were staked out along Newsome Creek, but by fall 1864, only 21 people were left at Newsome townsite, which is adjacent to Area 1849.

Mining here followed the same trend as other mining camps in Idaho County: a boom of initial placer discoveries in the 1860's, a decline followed by placer mining by the Chinese, a quartz (hardrock) boom in the 1880's, decline, stream-dredging activities, then final collapse.

Between 1870 and 1890, Chinese miners lived and mined in and near this roadless area. The Chinese arrived after the claims began to decline by white standards, and those miners were willing to sell out.

When the properties became valuable again in the quartz boom of the 1880's, courts ruled that Chinese could not legally own mining property. There were few Chinese left in the area by 1900. A memento of their presence in Area 1849

is Sing Lee Creek, named after a miner who was especially friendly to white men, and who reputedly lived over 100 years.

Current uses include livestock grazing, mining, big-game hunting, sightseeing, special use electronics sites, and fishing.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

Overall, natural processes are intact and operating. Although the area has been impacted by fire, mining, and grazing, the sum of these impacts is moderate. Most are sharply localized.

2. Natural Appearance

A road enters the area from the north, and climbs the ridge to Pilot Knob, where a lookout and electronic site are located. These are apparent to most observers. Elsewhere in the area, there are signs of grazing and past mining activity.

3. Solitude

The size of this area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The road to Pilot Knob almost divides the Area in half. Topographic and vegetative screening are both moderate, and there are off-site intrusions in the form of visible clearcuts, roads, and sounds from logging activity.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

Opportunities for primitive recreation is moderate. Challenges are limited to the rocks and cliffs around Pilot Rock and Pilot Knob. Manmade facilities are present in the center of the area (Pilot Knob Lookout) and on the edges (roads, timber sale areas). There is small opportunity for isolation.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Since 1979, the size of this area has been reduced by 14,695 acres to allow for existing and proposed timber sales.

Some parts of the boundary would be difficult to locate on the ground. Since the south side of the area shares a boundary with roaded development, trespass with motorized equipment would be likely. Administrative costs per acre would be high, due to the small size and isolation of this area from other wildernesses.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1849 are shown in Table C-24. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

Table C-24
Selected Resource Values - Silver Creek-Pilot Knob Roadless Area 1849
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	21255	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	21034	Summer Habitat	Acres	20562
			Winter Habitat	Acres	472
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	20562
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	21034	Winter Hab.	Acres	472
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	20562
			Winter Hab.	Acres	472
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	4720	Stream Miles	Miles	34
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	412	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	33
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	20091	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	285367	Moderate	Acres	4480
			Low	Acres	16554
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	12
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	21034
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	21255	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

a. Timber

The Pilot Rock/Pilot Knob ridge is not heavily forested. The rest of the area is covered with mixed species.

b. Recreation

Recreation use is light except for fall hunting. A couple of trails cross the Area, but receive only very light use.

c. Minerals

Mining activity is not widespread, but in view of the area's mining history, interest continues. There are currently 12 unpatented mining claims.

d. Fish and Wildlife

Anadromous fish are not present in Silver Creek, but the upper portion contains a reproducing population of eastern brook trout. Newsome Creek and its tributaries do contain anadromous fish as well as native species. The area also supports elk, deer, moose, and bear populations. Controlled hunts are made each year for a few moose. Area 1849 is a major elk summer range and security area. In addition, when taken together with Area 1844 to the north, it is a possible yearlong gray wolf habitat.

e. Grazing and Range

This Area contains parts of two allotments. The majority of the available forage is from low brush and forbs found under the overstory and along stream courses. There are a few small natural meadows along the streams and some small open grass areas along the ridges.

f. Cultural Resources

The area may contain undiscovered historic and prehistoric cultural resources. In addition to past mining, the northeastern boundary of Area 1849 is the historic Nez Perce Trail, which was used by Indians long before the time of mountain men and miners. This trail was the main access route to Idaho County mines of the 19th century, later became the Elk City Wagon Road, and still later was improved to accommodate motor vehicles.

g. Non-Federal Land

A 160-acre homestead patented in 1923 and an adjoining patented mining claim of 31 acres are located at the mouth of Pilot Creek on the northeast edge of the area. This land has been partially subdivided and is the site of several summer homes.

2. Other Management Considerations

Pilot Rock is reported to be an ancient "vision quest" site for the Nez Perce Indian Tribe. The Tribe is presently negotiating with the Forest Service to establish an undisturbed area around Pilot Rock that encompasses nearly the same acreage and boundaries as the proposed roadless area.

Silver Ridge, on the west edge of the Area, and the entire Silver Creek drainage are hotspots for lightning strikes and resultant fires.

Heartrot caused by Indianpaint fungus is predominant in the old-growth grand fir. Lodgepole pine stands are currently 70 to 75 years old. Stands which are 80 years old are considered moderately susceptible to mountain pine beetle attack. Other factors, such as large size and low elevation can compound the susceptibility, creating high risk of a mountain pine beetle attack.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The most unique feature of the area is Pilot Rock-Pilot Knob ridge, although a road runs its full length. Other features are represented in other wildernesses on the Forest.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

There is no record of any proposal that this area be given wilderness classification, but some would like to see it remain roadless for wildlife. The Nez Perce Indian tribe wants this area to remain roadless to protect the religious and historical significance of the area. Other interests center around timber management, roaded recreation, and big-game hunting.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-25, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1849 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 285.4 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone.

Table C-25
Management Emphasis-Silver Creek-Pilot Knob Roadless Area 1849 - 21,034 Acres (Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	20.6	0	20.6	20.6	19.9	6.6	0	20.6	20.6	19.9	19.9
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	21.0	0	0	0.7	14.0	0	0	0	0.7	0.7
Minimum Level	0.4	0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.0	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	5.9	0	6.6	9.0	5.8	0	0	7.6	7.0	6.2	6.2
Developed-Decade 5	21.0	0	21.0	21.0	21.0	7.7	0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
Roadless-Decade 1	15.1	21.0	14.4	12.0	15.2	21.0	0	13.4	14.0	14.8	14.8
Roadless-Decade 5	0	21.0	0	0	0	13.3	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.0	0	0	0	0

Some existing uses, such as use of trail bikes and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral exploration could be allowed to continue.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would be localized and limited. Gray wolf habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within 3 miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness provides full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in Newsome Creek.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 95 and 98 percent of Roadless Area 1849 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except C, G, G1, H, and H1. Approximately 35 percent of Area 1849 is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives G and G1. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 285.4 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest in all alternatives except C, G, G1, H, and H1. Approximately 99.2 MMBF of timber would be available for harvest in Alternatives G and G1. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Roads would enter the Silver Creek drainage in the southwest part of the area in the first decade except in Alternatives G and G1. Timber harvest would be adjacent to these roads. Between 5,800 and 9,000 acres would be opened to roaded development, except in Alternatives G and G1, depending on the timber objectives of a particular alternative.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Area 1849 is potential gray wolf habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely. This area holds potential for discovering new sites.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase, as would hunter access.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation is utilized. Removing trees from a site would increase the production of forbs, grasses, and shrubs that provide

forage for wintering big-game animals. Therefore, carrying capacity of big-game winter ranges would increase in proportion to the number of acres of winter range harvested each year.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Old-growth habitat would remain adequate. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone by the fifth decade. Pilot Rock/Pilot Knob would be unaffected.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

All of Roadless Area 1849 is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternative C, 13,300 acres of it in Alternatives G and G1, and 700 acres of it in Alternatives F, K, and L. These smaller acreages are mostly in riparian areas.

Continued roadless management of roadless areas or parts of roadless areas would have effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management if the acreages are large, and similar to roaded development if the areas are small.

All present uses could continue on roadless acreages. Timber harvest would be allowed, but from existing roads.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Area 1849 would remain unroaded in one alternative, with effects that would resemble those of wilderness. In the other alternatives, economic and social effects would be small. Generally, timber and mining industries would not be supported, since

no development is planned. On the other hand, wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the small size and dispersion of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels and habitat would be maintained if the entire area is unroaded. Coordination would be required in the case of small areas and nearby roaded development.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access. Disturbance of sites would be minimal if the entire area is unroaded; however, site disturbance would be more likely on small areas near roaded development.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained on the unroaded acreage.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low if the entire area is unroaded. Coordination would be required if the roadless acreage is adjacent to roaded development areas. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at near its highest potential.

- Visual Quality--The unroaded area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Stream sedimentation above natural rates would not originate in unroaded lands.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old-growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact if the entire area is assigned to roadless management.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription assigns a maintenance-only level of management to 400 acres of Area 1849 in all alternatives except C, H, and H1. These acres are not contiguous.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change; however, all alternatives except C, H, and H1 assign large acreages to roaded development, and effects will be similar to those of roaded development.

ROADLESS AREA 1850 -- NORTH FORK SLATE CREEK

12,783 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

Slate Creek and Road 354 from the Forest boundary upstream to the North Fork of Slate Creek Campground make up the southern boundary of this Area. The National Forest boundary is the Area's western boundary. Approximately 2/3 of the northern and eastern sides are bordered by Roads 463, 243, and 398. The remaining boundary is drawn to eliminate existing and proposed roads and timber harvest sites. Principal streams are the head of McKenzie Creek which drains into the Salmon River, and the North Fork of Slate Creek. Exposures are west, south, and southwest. Road access is principally by way of Roads 354 and 463.

The elevation ranges from 2,100 at Slate Creek where it meets the Forest boundary to 6,480 feet at Dairy Mountain. The Area contains very steep side slopes and tributary draws with some flat benches in the northeastern portion. The western and southern portions are open grass slopes with sparse timber, the northern portion below Dairy Mountain is typical rimrock, and the remainder is timbered hillsides.

Grasslands, scattered timber, and rimrock covers the steep south and west slopes in the western half of this Area. The east half of the Area has more timber cover, with scattered grassy openings.

Area 1850 was important in early Idaho history. In the fall of 1811, 11 members of the Wilson Price Hunt expedition, led by Donald McKenzie, passed the mouth of what is now McKenzie Creek. The river route was also used by miners in the 1860s.

The major current uses are grazing and mining. The area is generally too steep for hunting. This Area is also winter range for deer and elk.

Private property of 110 acres is located in the southwest portion of the Area next to Hurley Creek. A road runs about 1 mile into the Area.

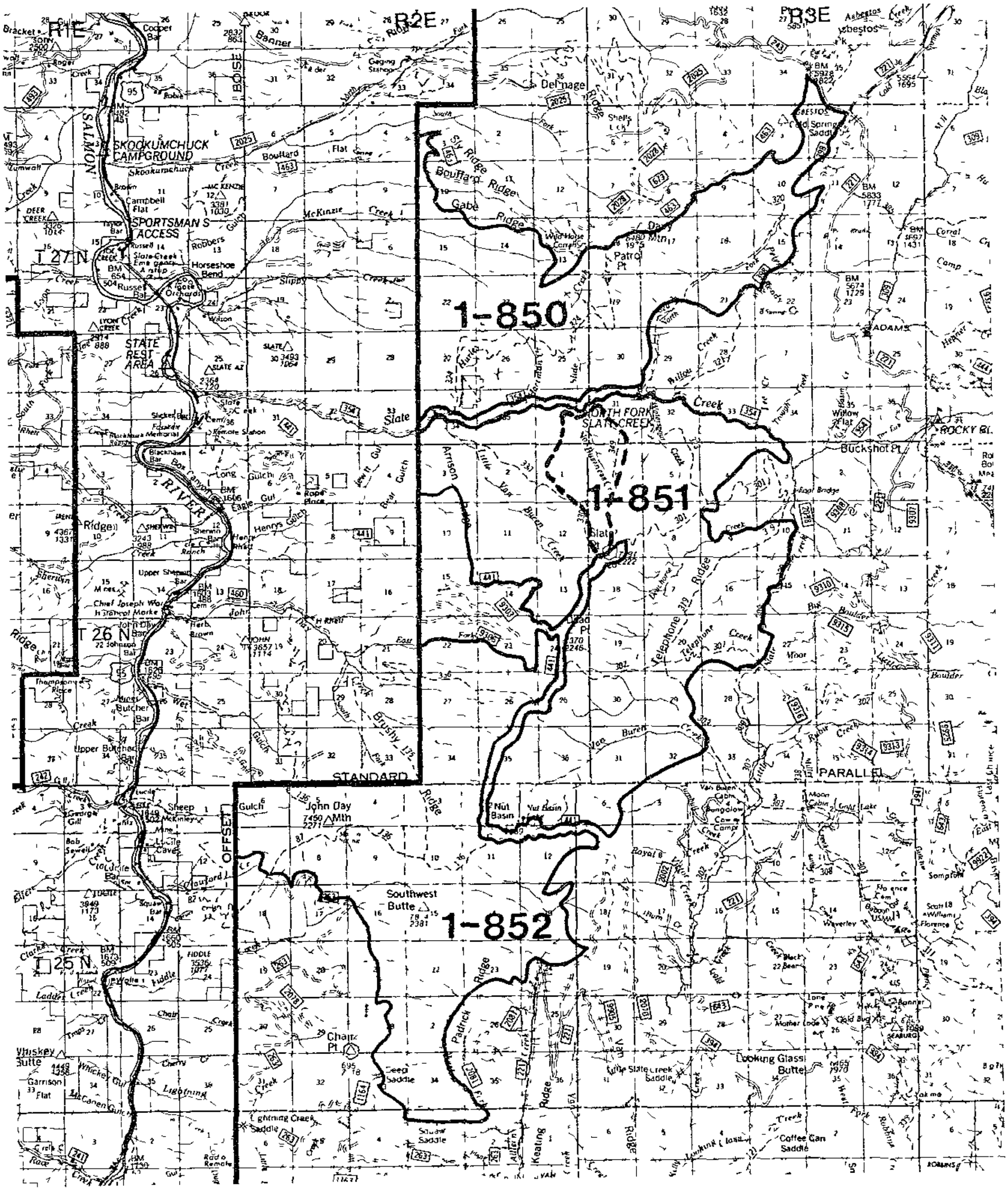
B. CAPABILITY

1. Natural Integrity

Other than the private property, the road to the private property, and a logged area near it, the area has not been significantly impacted.

2. Natural Appearance

Except for the above impacts, the area would appear natural to most people.


R1E
R2E
R3E
T 27 N
T 26 N
T 25 N
SALMON
RIVER
BOISE
SKOOKUMCHUCK CAMPGROUND
SPORTSMAN'S ACCESS
STATE REST AREA
1-850
1-851
1-852
NORTH FORK SLATE CREEK
STANDARD
OFFSET
Southwest Butte
John Day Mtn
Horseshoe Bend
Slate Creek
Delmage
Patrol Pt
Telephone Ridge
Van Buren Creek
Looking Glass Butte

3. Solitude

Topographic and vegetative screening are moderate. There are few drainages and few miles of trail available for extensive travel. Management activities are present on almost every side.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

Primitive recreation opportunity is moderate. Although there is some diversity in the Slate Creek and Salmon River breaks and the ridge tops around the North Fork of Slate Creek, the area is too small for a significant range of opportunity. Cliffs and bluffs on the breaks would be challenges.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

The boundary is well defined by roads on every side except the west, which borders private land. If this area is designated wilderness, then the small tract of private land would have to be purchased and the road closed.

Since 1979, 1,717 acres have been removed from this area to account for timber sales.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1850 are shown in Table C-26. Current uses are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

Most of the timber in this area is in the North Fork of Slate Creek.

b. Recreation

The trail network in the area is little used except by hunters and grazing permittees.

c. Fish and Wildlife

Slate Creek is an anadromous stream. Some of the creeks contain steelhead and rainbow trout. The usual big-game species, including moose, are present. This Area is both summer and winter range for deer and elk. Introduced bird species such as turkeys and chukars are also present.

d. Grazing

One grazing allotment exists. The impacts are light.

Table C-26
Selected Resource Values - North Fork Slate Creek Roadless Area 1850
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	12893	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	12783	Summer Habitat	Acres	9401
			Winter Habitat	Acres	3382
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	9401
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	12783	Winter Hab.	Acres	3382
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	9401
			Winter Hab.	Acres	3382
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	11190	Stream Miles	Miles	3
Allotments	No.	1			
AUMs	AUMs	1239	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	10
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	1200			
AUMs	AUMs	124	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	8681	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	99810	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	12783
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	12
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	12783
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

e. Cultural Resources

Significant prehistoric sites have been located in the Patrol Point area, and more are undoubtedly present. These are upland Native American campsites, probably late summer to early fall occupations. Various chipped and ground stone artifacts have been found.

f. Non-Federal Land

A private landholding of 110 acres patented in 1920 is located in Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35, Township 27 North, Range 2 East. About a mile of road leads into the property, which is fenced. It was lightly logged years ago and was heavily logged in 1984.

2. Other Management Considerations

A problem currently exists with Douglas-fir Bark Beetles to the north of this Area. A problem could exist in the future from the Mountain Pine Beetle in the north and eastern portions of this Area. There is also mistletoe in the Douglas-fir as well as small pockets of root rot.

The private property on Hurley Creek could cause some management problems. The road would have to be closed.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

Ecosystems in this area are found in established wildernesses on the Forest.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

There is little interest in making this area a wilderness. Interest centers around timber production, big-game hunting, and protection of cultural resources.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-27, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1850 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes.

Table C-27
Management Emphasis-North Fork Slate Creek Roadless Area 1850 - 12,783 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Management Emphasis	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	10.7	10.3	10.7	10.7	10.3	10.3	0	10.7	10.7	10.3	10.3
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.4	0	0	0	0.4	0.4
Minimum Level	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.8	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	3.1	2.6	3.4	4.7	2.9	2.7	0	3.9	3.6	3.2	3.0
Developed-Decade 5	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	0	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8
Roadless-Decade 1	9.7	10.2	9.4	8.1	9.9	10.1	0	8.9	9.2	9.6	9.8
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.8	0	0	0	0

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 99.8 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would be localized and limited.

- Cultural Resources--Known cultural resource sites would be afforded maximum protection. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would not change from semiprimitive nonmotorized since no part of the area is more than 3 miles from a road.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--Visual quality would be maintained in the area.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams, but opportunities to correct fish migration problems would be limited.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 80 and 84 percent of Roadless Area 1850 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1.

Approximately 99.8 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used. General environmental effects are shown in Chapter IV.

Between 2,600 and 4,700 acres would be opened to roaded development in the first decade, from 20 to 37 percent of the area. The highest acreages are contained in the alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives (I and J) with large acreages of wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximize outputs outside the wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (F, G, K, and L).

Roads would enter the area in Sections 2 and 27, T27N, R3E in the first decade. Actual mileage would depend on the timber harvest objectives of each alternative. Planned roads would parallel the North Fork of Slate Creek on both sides of the drainage as far southwest as Slide Creek. Timber harvest areas would be adjacent to these roads.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 2,700 acres to roaded development in the first decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites would be likely. The Forest Archaeologist will survey all proposed ground-disturbing activities prior to their initiation.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase, as would hunter access.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation is utilized.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Area 1850 is almost entirely modification and maximum modification. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area and from Slate Point, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Old-growth habitat would remain adequate. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 8,000 acres of Area 1850 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
   Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

About 400 acres of Roadless Area 1850 are assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L. These acres are mostly in riparian areas.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Economic and social effects of unroaded management in Area 1850 would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this alternative, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the small size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would depend on proximity of roaded development.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced somewhat due to access, but nearby roaded development would make site disturbance more likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be related to nearby roaded development. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation above natural rates would not originate in unroaded lands.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management provides more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact in these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription assigns a maintenance-only level of management for about 2,100 noncontiguous acres, or 16 percent, of Area 1850. These lands consist for the most part of steep, rocky breaklands with few trees.

Since roads may or may not be constructed, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change. Road construction is unlikely on these lands, but since the rest of the area would be roaded, effects would resemble those of roaded development.

ROADLESS AREA 1851 -- LITTLE SLATE CREEK

19,588 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This roadless area and Roadless Area 1852, which are separated by a road corridor, are both located on the divide between the Salmon River and Little Slate Creek. Principal drainages are Van Buren Creek, Little Van Buren Creek, No Business Creek, Waterspout Creek, and Deadhorse Creek. All are part of the Slate Creek drainage. This Area is bordered by Slate Creek and road 354 on the north, and road 441, which traverses the Slate Point-Nut Basin ridge, on the south and west.

The elevation ranges from 2,100 feet where Slate Creek crosses the National Forest boundary to 7,370 feet just below Nut Basin. This Area has very steep side slopes and tributary draws, with some flat benches along the mid-elevations. Deadhorse Creek is hidden in the middle of the Area and has solitude qualities. The Area contains many springs and intermittent streams.

There is one small lake, Nut Basin, at the head of Van Buren Creek beneath Nut Basin. It is unique in that one would hardly expect to find a lake there. It is about 2 acres, and deep enough to support a large population of eastern brook trout. Marsh vegetation is present on the shoreline, making the lake hard to fish.

This Area is almost completely forested. It lies on north to east slopes, or high enough south slopes for the climax vegetation to be trees. The major species is Douglas-fir.

Trail 307, which crosses the area from west to east, is a part of the old miners' route to Florence. Gold was discovered in Florence Basin in the summer of 1861, and by November there were 2,000 miners in the camp. The winter of 1861-62 was one of the coldest in Idaho history, and Van Buren Creek was named after a traveler who froze to death there.

The major current uses are grazing and hunting. This is a quality hunting area for elk and deer. This Area contains deer and elk summer and winter range.

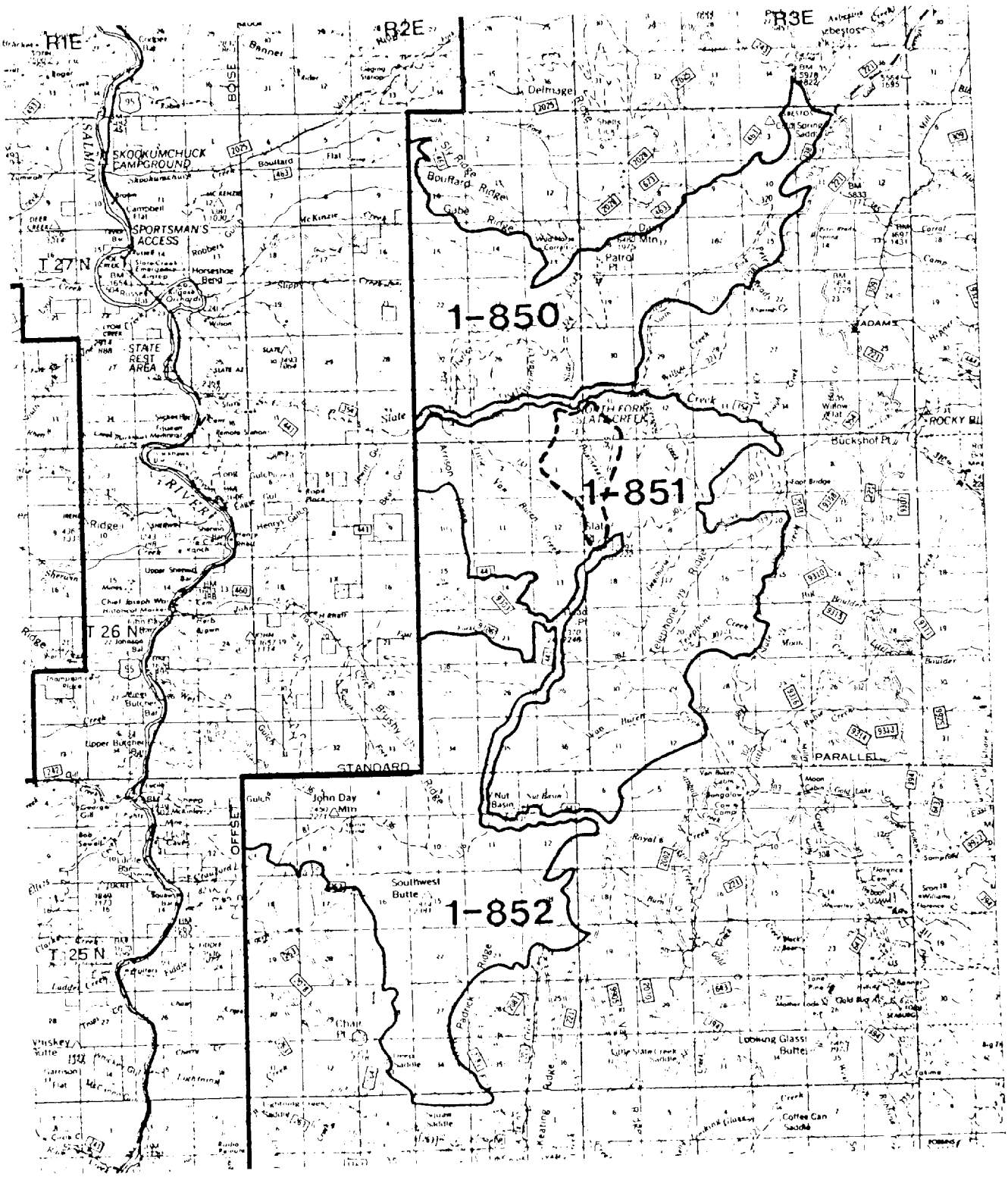
Scenic points include Slate Point, Dead Point, and Nut Point. There is also a proposed Research Natural Area.

As required under 36 CFR 219.17, Area 1243, a roadless area previously discussed in a Unit Plan, has been added to this area.

B. CAPABILITY

1. Natural Integrity

Other than trails and grazing, the area has been little impacted.


R1E
R2E
R3E
BOISE
NORTH STAR
SKOOKUMCHUCK CAMPGROUND
SPORTSMAN'S ACCESS
STATE REST AREA
T 27 N
T 26 N
T 25 N
RIVER
STANDARD
OFFSET
PARALLEL
Delmage
Bouffard Ridge
Gube Ridge
Patrol Pt
McKenzie Creek
Buckshot Pt
Nut Basin
John Day Mtn
Southwest Butte
Looking Glass Butte
Coffee Can Saddle
1-850
1-851
1-852

2. Natural Appearance

The area itself appears natural. There are many off-site intrusions, however.

3. Solitude

The area offers little opportunity for solitude. It is almost impossible not to notice off-site intrusions such as lookout towers, roads, old clearcuts, and present logging activity from most parts of the area because these impacts are an integral part of it.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

Although topographic and vegetative screening are moderate over most of the area, there is little diversity and challenge. One lake is present, but it is close to the road and can hardly be called isolated. There are few features that are commonly considered hazardous.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

The northern boundary of this area is Slate Creek. The remaining boundary is irregular, drawn mostly to exclude existing roads and timber sale areas. Some parts of it would be hard to locate on the ground with any degree of accuracy. Costs per acre to administer this area as a wilderness would be high on account of its small size and isolation from existing wildernesses.

In 1983, a 10,000-acre roadless area not included in the last nationwide roadless area review and evaluation was combined with Area 1851. Other adjustments have added another 388 acres.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1851 are shown in Table C-28. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

Almost all parts of the area are timbered with mixed species on steep slopes.

b. Range and Grazing

This area is grazed by both cattle and big-game. Primary range is on south slopes below 4,500 feet and on north slopes below 3,000 feet. Transition range is above 4,500 feet and on ridgetops. There are two grazing allotments with a total of 729 AUMs.

c. Recreation

Use is light except for hunting.

Table C-28
Selected Resource Values - Little Slate Creek Roadless Area 1851
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	19588	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	19588	Summer Habitat	Acres	17087
			Winter Habitat	Acres	2501
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	17087
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	19588	Winter Hab.	Acres	2501
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	17087
			Winter Hab.	Acres	2501
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	6579	Stream Miles	Miles	22
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	729	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	22
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	1
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	2
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	3390			
AUMs	AUMs	220	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	18482	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	226545	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	19588
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	1
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	19588
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

d. Fish and Wildlife

Slate Creek is used by chinook and steelhead for spawning and rearing, but cataracts 2 miles up Little Slate Creek stop passage of these fish. Rainbow, cutthroat, and brook trout are also found in these creeks and their tributaries. Fishing pressure is light.

Parts of the area are summer habitat for big game, and other parts are winter range. Impacts are light, except along the roaded parts of Slate Creek and Little Slate Creek.

e. Cultural Resources

Two upland Native American campsites have been discovered in this area. These sites are high on the ridgetop and were probably late summer to early fall occupations. Various chipped and ground stone artifacts have been found at these sites.

f. Non-Federal Land

There are no non-Federal lands in this roadless area.

2. Other Management Considerations

A Research Natural Area is scheduled to be established in No Business Creek under all alternatives. Maidenhair fern grows in this drainage, which is near the southern extreme of this plant's range.

There is a problem with Douglas-fir bark beetles, mistletoe, and small pockets of root rot in the Douglas-fir.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

With the exception of the proposed Research Natural Area, ecosystems in this area are found in established wildernesses on the Forest.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

No interest has been expressed in making this roadless area a wilderness. Most interests and concerns are with timber management, grazing, and big-game management.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-29, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

Table C-29
Management Emphasis-Little Slate Roadless Area 1851 - 19,588 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Management Emphasis	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	17.4	16.7	17.4	17.4	16.7	16.7	0	17.4	17.4	16.7	16.7
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	.7	0	0	.7	.7	0	0	0	.7	.7
Minimum Level	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	0	.8	.8	.8	.8
Research Natural Area	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	19.6	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	5.0	4.2	5.6	7.6	4.9	4.3	0	6.4	5.9	5.2	5.1
Developed-Decade 5	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	0	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2
Roadless-Decade 1	14.6	15.4	14.0	12.0	14.7	15.3	0	13.2	13.7	14.4	14.5
Roadless-Decade 5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	19.6	0	0	0	0

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1851 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only, with the exception of grazing.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 227 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would be localized and limited.

- Cultural Resources--The area has potential for prehistoric sites in addition to those already discovered. Under a wilderness management emphasis, disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized since no place in this area is more than 3 miles from a road.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams, but removal of fish migration barriers would become more difficult.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 85 and 89 percent of Roadless Area 1851 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 227 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 4,200 acres (21 percent of the area) and 7,600 acres, (39 percent of the area) would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives with large acreages proposed for wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximize outputs outside the wilderness (I and J). The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (F, G, K, L, C).

Area 1851 would be entered in the first decade. Actual mileages would depend on timber harvest objectives of each alternative. Entries would be made into Little Van Buren Creek from the west, and other entries in Section 10, T26N, R2E would open up Waterspout Creek. The head of Van Buren Creek and Telephone Ridge would also be opened by roads.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 4,300 acres (22 percent of the area), to roaded development in the first decade. No action under any alternative would affect the proposed No Business Research Natural Area, but the RNA, as proposed, does contain a road.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups

advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely. The Forest Archaeologist will survey all proposed ground-disturbing activities prior to their initiation.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation is utilized. Removing trees from a site would increase the production of forbs, grasses, and shrubs that provide forage for wintering big-game animals. Therefore, carrying capacity of big-game winter ranges would increase in proportion to the number of acres of winter range that are harvested each year.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Objectives for Area 1851 are modification and maximum modification under this management emphasis. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--This would exceed minimum management requirements. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, almost 12,000 acres of Area 1851 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L assign 700 acres of Area 1851 to this management emphasis. These acres are mostly in riparian areas and would remain roadless to protect these values.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Economic and social effects would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally, timber and mining industries would not be supported, since no development is planned. Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would depend on proximity to roaded development. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced somewhat because of difficult access, but since the area is small, disturbance of sites would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained on the unroaded acreage.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be in direct relation to the location of roaded development. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation originating in the unroaded area would not exceed natural rates.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact in these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

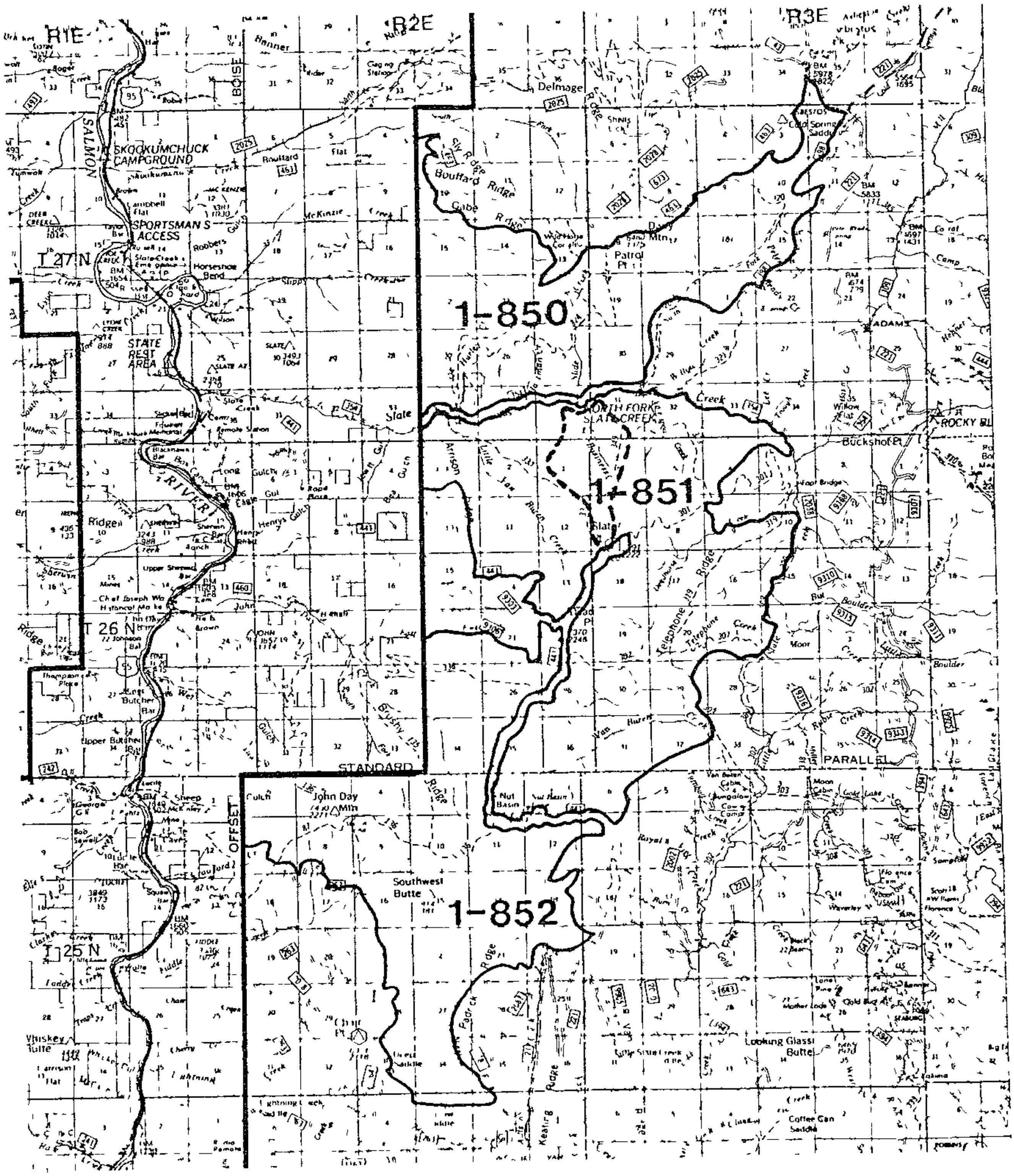
This prescription assigns a maintenance-only level of management to 800 acres in all alternatives except H and H1. These are mostly lands not suitable for timber production, and are not contiguous.

Since roads may or may not be built, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change; however, much of the area would be roaded in these alternatives, and effects would resemble those of roaded development.

e. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Research Natural Area (RNA)

This prescription is assigned to 1,400 acres of Area 1851 in all alternatives.

Management of Research Natural Areas excludes activities which directly or indirectly modify ecological processes. Logging is prohibited, and no roads are planned. Fire suppression is accomplished by manual means. In effect, wilderness characteristics are retained. The Research Natural Area is the most unique part of the roadless area.


R1E
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1-850
1-851
1-852
SALMON
RIVER
SKOOKUMCHUCK CAMPGROUND
SPORTSMAN'S ACCESS
STATE REST AREA
NORTH FORK SLATE CREEK
STANDARD
PARALLEL
OFFSET
BOISE
Delmage
Bouffard Ridge
Patrol Pt
Southwest Butte
John Day Mtn
Nut Basin
Looking Glass Butte
Buckshot Pt
Slate
Horseshoe Bend
Upper Butcher
Whiskey Butte
Coffee Can Saddle
Telephone Ridge

ROADLESS AREA 1852 -- JOHN DAY

14,991 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area is located on a high ridge between the Salmon River and Little Slate Creek. The headwaters of Allison Creek and John Day Creek are located within this Area. A road corridor on the top of the ridge separates this roadless area from Area 1851 to the north. Access is from the north, south, and west on Roads 441, 221, and 263.

The elevation ranges from 3,800 feet at the National Forest boundary to 7,450 feet at John Day Mountain and 7,814 feet at Southwest Butte. Slopes are very steep with hardly any flat benches. This area contains a north-south ridge with perpendicular ridges and draws. On the slopes facing the Salmon River canyon, vegetation runs from nonforested land to an alpine zone. The east side of the main ridge is not as steep as the west, and vegetation is more uniform. South slopes contain mostly grasses with scattered trees at the higher elevations. The north slopes are timbered. The major species are white bark pine, Douglas-fir, and a small amount of ponderosa pine.

The principal topographic features are Southwest Butte and John Day Mountain. John Day, for whom the mountain and creek are named, operated a way station for miners near the mouth of the creek in 1862.

The current major use of this Area is grazing. The Area is also heavily hunted. Allison Creek and John Day Creek support anadromous fish.

There is a very scenic view from road 441 that runs next to the north boundary of this Area.

As required under 36 CFR 219.17, Area 1244, a roadless area previously discussed in a unit plan, has been added to this area.

B. CAPABILITY

This section describes the basic characteristics which make the area appropriate and valuable for wilderness regardless of the Area's availability or need.

1. Natural Integrity

On the whole, natural processes are intact and operating, although there are heavy impacts on some sites.

The thin soils around Southwest Butte and southwest of Nut Basin are locally damaged from off-road vehicle use. These areas still show soil and vegetative impacts from past grazing, although they are not grazed at the present.

2. Natural Appearance

Human activities are not far away from this area. The impacts noted above are noticeable, as are off-site intrusions listed below. Roads or logging areas are visible from nearly all high viewpoints within the area.

3. Solitude

Since the area is at or near the top of a ridge, one does not have the opportunity to experience the solitude of an enclosed drainage.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

The main challenge is the steep slopes on the west side. Prominent landmarks are visible from most parts of the area to aid in orientation. There is some diversity in that the area consists of the east and west sides of a high ridge, but the area is too small for any significant diversity.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

In 1983, a 4,900-acre roadless area not included in the last nationwide roadless area review and evaluation, was combined with Area 1852. Other adjustments have added 91 acres.

Other than the portion of the western boundary that is also the Forest boundary, avoidance of existing roads has been the guiding factor in establishing the perimeter of the area. Managing this area as a wilderness would be difficult due to irregular boundaries and small size. Administrative costs per acre would be high.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1852 are shown in Table C-30. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Timber

The standing volume of 138 MMBF is mixed species on steep slopes.

b. Range and Grazing

There are few trees below 4,500 feet on south slopes and below 3,000 feet on north slopes. This land is primary range. Transitory range is above these elevations. Parts of three grazing allotments are within this Area.

c. Recreation

A jeep trail runs from Nut Basin to Chair Point via Southwest Butte, causing locally heavy impacts. Off-road vehicles use other parts of the area as well. Hunter use during the season is moderate to heavy.

Table C-30
Selected Resource Values - John Day Roadless Area 1852
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	14991	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	14991	Summer Habitat	Acres	14685
			Winter Habitat	Acres	306
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	14685
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	13000	Winter Hab.	Acres	306
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	1991	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	14685
			Winter Hab.	Acres	306
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	7880	Stream Miles	Miles	3
Allotments	No.	3			
AUMs	AUMs	1013	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	3
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	994			
AUMs	AUMs	112	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	7695	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	137950	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	14991
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	0
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	14991
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

d. Fish and Wildlife

The larger streams support anadromous fish. Elk, deer, bear, and cougar inhabit the area. Potential peregrine falcon habitat exists in parts of the area.

e. Cultural Resources

An upland Native American campsite has been discovered in the area. It was probably a late summer or early fall occupation. Various cultural remains have been found at the site.

f. Non-Federal Land

There are no non-Federal lands in this area.

2. Other Management Considerations

There is a mistletoe problem in the Douglas-fir, but it is not as severe as on other parts of the Forest. Bark beetles are endemic in the East Fork of John Day Creek.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

Ecosystems in this area are found in established wildernesses on the Forest.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

No interest has been shown toward making this area a wilderness. Concerns are with timber management, grazing, off-road vehicle use, and wildlife.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-31, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1852 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for semiprimitive nonmotorized recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only, with the exception of grazing.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 137.9 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone.

Table C-31
Management Emphasis-John Day Roadless Area 1852 - 14,991 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	13.4	13.1	13.4	13.4	13.1	13.1	0	13.4	13.4	13.1	13.1
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.3	0	0	0.3	0.3	0	0	0	0.3	0.3
Minimum Level	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	15.0	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	3.8	3.3	4.3	5.8	3.8	3.4	0	4.9	4.5	4.0	4.0
Developed-Decade 5	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Roadless-Decade 1	11.2	11.7	10.7	9.2	11.2	11.6	0	10.1	10.5	11.0	11.0
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	15.0	0	0	0	0

Some existing uses, such as use of off-road vehicles, trail bikes, and chainsaws, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would be localized and limited. Maximum protection would be afforded peregrine falcon habitat.

- Cultural Resources--The area has potential for prehistoric sites in addition to those discovered. Under a wilderness management emphasis, disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would not change, since no place in the area is more than 3 miles from a road.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams, but habitat improvement would be more difficult to accomplish.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Between 87 and 89 percent of Roadless Area 1852 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1. General environmental effects would be those described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 137.9 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 3,300 acres (22 percent of the area) and 5,800 acres (37 percent of the area) would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives (I and J) with large acreages of proposed wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximize outputs outside of wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (C, F, K, and L).

Area 1852 would be entered in the first decade. Actual mileage would depend on the timber harvest objectives of each alternative. The area would be entered from the north in Section 23, T26N, R2E; this road would parallel the boundary and open up the head of John Day Creek. Another entry would be made near Fiddle Creek in Section 8, T25N, R2E.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 3,400 acres, 23 percent of the area, to roaded development in the first decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required. Parts of Area 1852 have been identified as peregrine falcon habitat, but these are unlikely to be disturbed by roaded development, since they are in areas unsuitable for timber harvest. However, if conflicts occur, the Forest, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, would immediately reassess the potential impacts of management activities on the falcon and its habitat.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development provides for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely. The Forest Archaeologist will survey all proposed ground-disturbing activities prior to their initiation.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase, as would hunter access.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

  Winter ranges would be improved through timber harvest where site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation is utilized; however, the winter range acreage in Area 1852 is small.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Most of Area 1852 has objectives of modification and maximum modification. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction. However, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Suitable old-growth habitat would remain, especially on the ridgetops. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 9,000 acres of Area 1852 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
   Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L assign approximately 314 acres of Area 1852 to this management emphasis. These acres are mostly in riparian zones, and remain roadless to protect those values.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Economic and social effects of unroaded management in Area 1852 would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned.

Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial distribution of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion on peregrine falcon habitat would be minimal.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access. Disturbance of sites would depend on the location of roads and timber harvest activity.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be in direct relation to the location and extent of roaded development.

- Visual Quality--The unroaded area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation above present natural rates would not originate in unroaded lands.

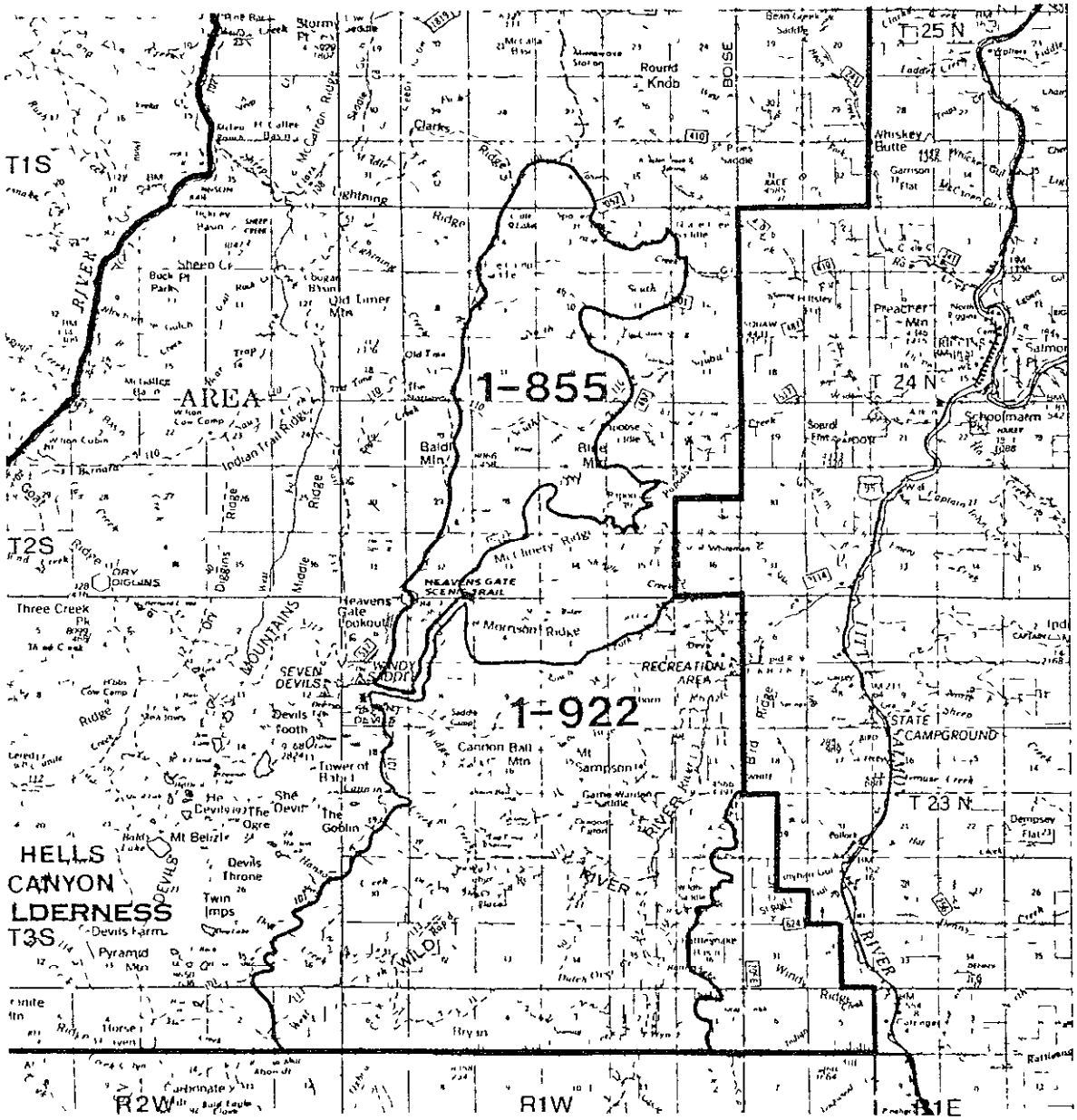
- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management provides more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact on these small areas.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription assigns a maintenance-only level of management to 1,600 acres, or 11 percent of the area. These lands are not suitable for timber production, and are also the most likely peregrine falcon nesting sites.

Since roads may or may not be constructed, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change. However, since road construction is unlikely, effects would resemble those of unroaded management.


I-855
I-922
AREA
RECREATIONAL AREA
STATE CAMPGROUND
HELLS CANYON
WILDERNESS
T1S
T2S
T3S
T25 N
T24 N
T23 N
R2W
R1W
R1E
BOISE
RIVER
SEVEN DEVILS
MOUNTAINS
Heavens Gate Lookout
HEAVENS GATE SCENIC TRAIL
Three Creek Pk
Round Knob
Whiskey Butte
Preacher Mtn
Schoolmarm
Baldy Mtn
Old Timer Mtn
Indian Trail Ridge
McCheery Ridge
Morrison Ridge
Cannon Ball Mtn
Mt Sampson
Devils Tower of Hight
Devils Throne
Twin Imps
Pyramid Mtn
Mt Belzie
Dempsey Flat
Windy Saddle

ROADLESS AREA 1855 -- SALMON FACE

9,414 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

This area is high on the east side of the divide between the Snake and Salmon Rivers. It joins the Hells Canyon Wilderness at the ridge top on the west side. Squaw Creek, Race Creek, and Papoose Creek, which flow into the Salmon River, originate in the Area. Road 517 borders this Area on the south side. Other access roads are roads 487, 9901, 2052, and 205 on the east side.

The elevation ranges from 3,500 feet to 8,429 feet at Heavens Gate Lookout. The Area is made up of very steep side slopes and tributary draws with a few flat benches. This Area contains mostly heavy timber with underbrush. Less brush grows on the south slopes than on the north slopes. The major tree species are Douglas-fir and grand fir.

The current major uses include grazing, hunting, hiking, and spelunking. The Papoose grazing allotment is divided into four pastures which are rotated, and the area contains numerous developed springs, dams, corrals, and fences. Big game animals also use the area as summer range. The key grass species is bluebunch wheatgrass.

Two east-west trails cross the area and connect to Trail 101, the old Boise Trail. This trail, used since prehistoric times, follows the ridgetop which, for the most part coincides with the boundary of this roadless area. Two small lakes are also present high on the ridge, both support fish.

Scenery from within the Area is spectacular to those who hike or ride horseback on the trails. On clear days, one can see four states from the summit, and view the Snake River and canyon.

Papoose Cave, a large, deep, limestone cave, is one of the most important undeveloped caves of its type in Idaho, and perhaps the Pacific Northwest. An unusually deep and rugged cave, it has gained both national and international attention. It has been managed since 1971 under a cooperative agreement with the Gem State Grotto, National Speleological Society. This cave lies below Area 1852 with the entrance just within the Area.

There are 28 unpatented mining claims in the area. Potential exists for development of a mine just outside the boundary, and veins with good mineralization may extend into the northern part of the area.

B. CAPABILITY

1. Natural Integrity

The heaviest impact is that caused by grazing, and facilities such as stock tanks and fences associated with livestock management.

2. Natural Appearance

Much of the area contains on-site intrusions that result from grazing livestock and range-related, manmade structures. Parts of the area not grazed would appear natural.

3. Solitude

Solitude opportunities are good when the area is considered together with the Hells Canyon Wilderness. Topographic and vegetative screening are both moderate. There are roads, and noises associated with roads, on all sides, and cutting units are visible.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

Papoose Cave presents a harsh environment, especially for the ill-prepared or improperly equipped. With more than 12 pits, most over 50 feet deep, the cave is noisy as icy water pours into the pits, creating thundering waterfalls.

Relative humidity is a constant 99 percent and the mean temperature is 37 degrees. A multi-level maze of tall, narrow, twisting passages, the cave can be somewhat confusing. Even veteran cavers have had close calls.

Papoose Cave is the only known extensive, undeveloped limestone cave available for "wild" caving in the Pacific Northwest. In spite of its reputation as one of the west's most "unfriendly" caves, Papoose remains popular with experienced explorers because of its rugged challenges and pristine conditions.

There are a few other small limestone caves in the area, none of which has attracted any particular attention from spelunkers.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Since 1979, 114 acres have been added to this area by an acreage recalculation.

The boundary is well defined by roads on every side except the west, which borders the Hells Canyon Wilderness. This Area could be added to the Hells Canyon Wilderness even though it was originally left out when Congress established the wilderness in 1975. If this Area is designated wilderness, then we would need to purchase the small tract of private land in the northeastern portion or delete if from the Area.

Established grazing use could continue under wilderness designation.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1855 are shown in Table C-32. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

Table C-32
Selected Resource Values - Salmon Face Roadless Area 1855
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	9414	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	9414	Summer Habitat	Acres	9159
			Winter Habitat	Acres	255
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	9159
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	9414	Winter Hab.	Acres	255
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	897
			Winter Hab.	Acres	255
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	4340	Stream Miles	Miles	3
Allotments	No.	3			
AUMs	AUMs	622	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	3
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	2
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	4
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	5
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	5837	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	70419	Moderate	Acres	400
			Low	Acres	9014
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	28
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	9414
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
			Leased Area	Acres	0

a. Timber

The standing volume of 70.4 MMBF is mixed species on steep slopes.

b. Range

The area has a long history of grazing use, dating back to the late 1700s when the Indians acquired horses. Almost all of the area is presently grazed.

c. Minerals

Most of the interest shown has been in gold.

d. Recreation

The trails are used mainly by hunters and livestock. Other recreation activity such as berry picking and mushroom gathering occurs in season.

e. Fish and Wildlife

Elk, deer, bear, and cougar are the primary big-game species. Two lakes support fish populations. Almost all streams inside the Area drain into anadromous fisheries outside of the Area, such as Squaw Creek, Race Creek, and Papoose Creek. There are resident fish inside the boundary where there is enough water to support them, but no known anadromous fish within the Area. There are several hydro projects proposed for the drainages running out of this Area at or near the Forest boundary.

f. Cultural Resources

The old Boise Trail, which was used for centuries, runs through Area 1855. Although parts of the trail are now difficult to find, cultural resource sites may exist in the vicinity.

g. Non-Federal Lands

There is one small tract of private land in the northeastern portion of this Area.

2. Other Management Considerations

There is a minor problem with Douglas-fir bark beetles, mistletoe in the Douglas-fir, and small pockets of root rot.

The small tract of private land would have to be purchased or the boundaries changed to exclude it.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The most unique feature of the area, Papoose Cave, is managed under a cooperative agreement with the National Speleological Society.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

Concerns have been with management of Papoose Cave and with grazing. The Idaho Wildlife Federation and the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association recommend the area for wilderness classification.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-33, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

Table C-33
Management Emphasis-Salmon Face Roadless Area 1855 - 9,414 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative											
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4	0	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	0.1	0	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1
Minimum Level	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.4	0	0	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	2.4	2.1	2.8	3.7	2.5	2.1	0	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.6
Developed-Decade 5	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	0	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4
Roadless-Decade 1	7.0	7.3	6.6	5.7	6.9	7.3	0	6.3	6.5	6.8	6.8
Roadless-Decade 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.4	0	0	0	0

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1855 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H and H1. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes other than grazing.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 70.4 MMBF now present in the area, would be foregone.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on valid existing claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed. However, there is little winter range in Area 1855.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited.

- Cultural Resources--The old Boise Trail and sites associated with it would be afforded maximum protection.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Wildfire could play a natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

About 90 percent of Roadless Area 1855 is assigned to this management emphasis in all alternatives except H and H1. General environmental effects are described in Chapter IV.

Approximately 70.4 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available for harvest over the full range of nonwilderness alternatives. Range developments could be constructed, and motorized equipment used.

Between 2,100 acres (22 percent of the area) and 3,700 acres (39 percent of the area) would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. The highest acreages are contained in alternatives which maximize timber harvest Forestwide (D and E) and in those alternatives (I and J) with large acreages of proposed wilderness elsewhere on the Forest which maximize outputs outside of wilderness. The lower acreages are contained in alternatives with high Forestwide fish/water quality objectives (C, F, K, and L).

Area 1855 would be entered in Section 27, T24N R1W, and the road would cross the head of Squaw Creek. Actual mileage would depend on timber harvest objectives of each alternative.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 2,100 acres to roaded development in the first decade. No action under any alternative would affect the most unique feature of the area, Papoose Cave.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction, and habitat management would be required if T&E species were determined to be present.

- Cultural Resources--Any action in the known or supposed vicinity of the Boise Trail would be reviewed by the Forest Archaeologist prior to any ground-disturbing activity.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Sufficient old growth would remain to meet minimum management requirements. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 5,000 acres of Area 1855 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade. Acreage of any size adjoining the Hells Canyon Wilderness could be added to that Wilderness.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

About 100 acres of Area 1855 are assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives C, F, G, G1, K, and L.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Economic and social effects of unroaded management in Area 1855 would be small and would vary little among alternatives. Generally speaking, timber and mining industries would not be supported under this emphasis, since no development is planned. *Wilderness advocates would not be supported because of the size and spatial* distribution of these areas.

Effects of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase due to nearby roaded development, but habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access. Disturbance of sites would depend on the proximity to roaded development.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would depend on roaded development elsewhere in the area. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--The unroaded acreage would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation could be held to present natural rates in unroaded areas.

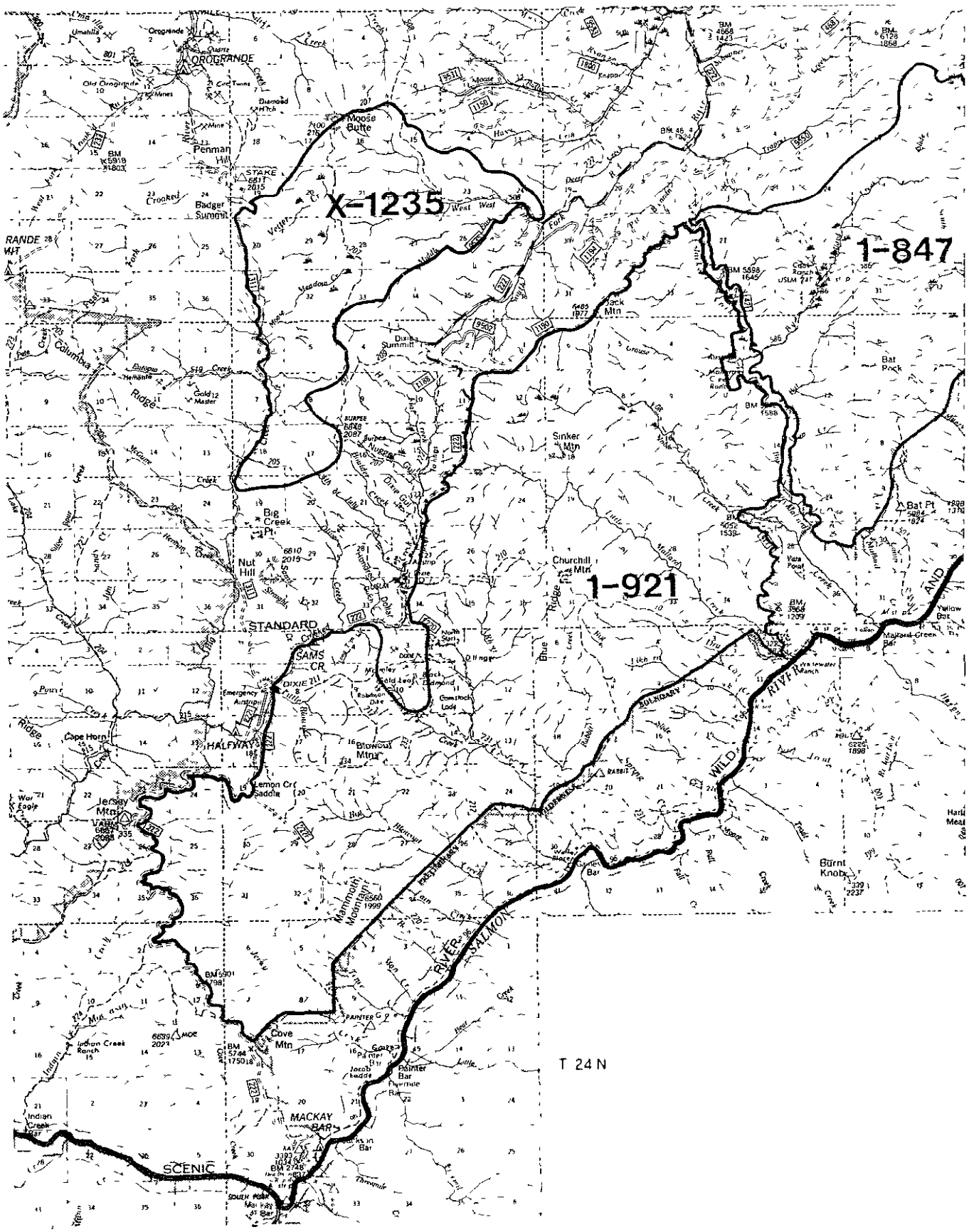
- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management would provide more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact on these small acreages.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management on 900 acres in all alternatives except H and H1. These acres are not contiguous.

Since roads may or may not be constructed, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change; however, since all alternatives except two call for significant roaded development, effects would resemble those of that management emphasis.


X-1235
I-847
I-921
OROGRANDE
Moose Butte
Penman Hill
Badger Summit
Dixie Summit
Jack Mtn
Sinker Mtn
Churchill Mtn
Bat Pt
Big Creek Pt
Nut Hill
STANDARD
SAMS CR
DIXIE
HALFWAY
Cape Horn
Blowout Mtns
Lemon Cr Saddle
Jersey Mtn
Mammoth Mountain
Cove Mtn
Painter Bar
MACKAY BAR
SCENIC
Burnt Knob
WILD AND SCENIC RIVER
SALMON
T 24 N

ROADLESS AREA 1921 -- GOSPEL-HUMP (JERSEY-JACK)

54,321 Acres

A. DESCRIPTION

The Gospel-Hump Wilderness was created out of lands in Area 1921 and the acreage remaining still carries that name on Forest and Regional Office records. However, the area is probably now better known as "Jersey-Jack."

Roadless Area 1921 is immediately above the Salmon River breaks, and has a long common boundary (southeastern) with the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness along those breaks. Road 222 borders this Area on the southwest; Road 421, Jacks Creek, and Big Mallard Creek make up the northeastern boundary; and Roads 222 and 1190 border on the northwest. Generally, exposures are southeast, and all streams in the area flow into the Salmon River. Major creeks within the Area include all of Little Mallard Creek, Big Blowout Creek, Jersey Creek, and Noble Creek.

Access is by way of Road 222 and its spurs on the north and west, Road 421 on the east, and Road 1190 on the north. Road 222 ends at Mackay Bar and Road 421 ends at Whitewater Ranch, both on the Salmon River.

This Area includes such topographical features as Blowout Mountain, Blue Ridge, Sinker Mountain, and Cove Mountain. The elevation ranges from 2,402 feet at Whitewater Ranch to 6,680 feet at Sinker Mountain.

This is high, rolling, timbered country, with meadows along some of the larger creeks. The ecosystem type ranges from extensive lodgepole-pine-dominated stands in the Little Mallard Creek, lower Noble Creek, Jack Creek, Rhett Creek and Mammouth Mountain areas to climax ponderosa pine in the Vista Point and Whitewater areas to Engelmann spruce-alpine fir in the higher elevations and cold air drainages. Some larger meadows exist along Jacks Creek, Noble Creek, and Little Mallard Creek.

Area 1921 adjoins the small town of Dixie, which has a history of mining activity dating back to 1864. Early placer operations exploited creek gravels and high benches. The area's mining boom came with hardrock activity between 1890 and 1915. Many old mining relics still remain. Current mining activity is located in the Robinson Dike area and the Blowout Mountain area, both southeast of Dixie.

Recreation uses include fishing, hunting, camping, horseback riding, hiking, snowmobiling, motorcycling, sightseeing along the Dixie-Mackay Bar Road, and driving to the Salmon River via the two roads that border the roadless area to boat or to fish for steelhead and salmon. Four outfitters operate in the Area.

Vista Point has a scenic view of Mallard Creek Falls and the Salmon Breaks. The road from Vista Point to Whitewater Ranch goes through one of the few areas containing old-growth ponderosa pine on the Red River District.

B. CAPABILITY

1. Natural Integrity

Most impacts are confined to small areas. Overall, long-term ecological processes are intact and operating. The principal impacts come from Mallard Creek Ranch and mining activity in the head of Little Mallard Creek and the Robinson Creek area. The mining activity is on the perimeter of the area and could be excluded.

2. Natural Appearance

Present and proposed activities are located along the northern and eastern boundaries. Thus, the farther one travels into the area, the more natural the surroundings will appear. Less than 15 percent of the area is impacted.

3. Solitude

Area 1921 has a common boundary with the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and at one point is separated from the Gospel-Hump Wilderness by a road corridor. When taken together with these wildernesses, Area 1921 offers very high opportunities for solitude. Vegetative screening is moderate to dense. Most off-site intrusions -- airplanes and other activity at Mallard Creek Ranch, timber harvest, and mining -- are located a mile or more from the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness.

4. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

Area 1921 by itself is not diverse, and offers few challenges. Topography is mostly rolling hills. The forest cover is uniform, almost monotonous, and the main challenge is a lack of topographical features for orientation. When the area is taken together with the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, however, primitive recreation opportunity becomes very high.

5. Wilderness Manageability and Boundaries

Since 1979, this Area has been reduced by 27,239 acres. Proposed timber sales and roads account for 24,780 acres; the balance includes acreage recalculations, mining claims, and the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness boundary adjustments. However, since this area was neither logged nor roaded, the boundary has been adjusted to again include the 24,780 acres.

Boundaries of this area are well defined by roads on the east, north, west, and southwest sides. The southeastern boundary is the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Administrative costs would be similar to those of the adjacent wildernesses. Boundaries may have to be adjusted to exclude existing mining activity.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1921 are shown in Table C-34. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

Table C-34
Selected Resource Values - Gospel-Hump Roadless Area 1921
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	54587	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	54321	Summer Habitat	Acres	53008
			Winter Habitat	Acres	1313
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	53008
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	54321	Winter Hab.	Acres	1313
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Hab.	Acres	53008
			Winter Hab.	Acres	1313
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	535	Stream Miles	Miles	65
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	190	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	64
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	2300			
AUMs	AUMs	230	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	4480
Tentative Suitable	Acres	52416	High	Acres	7040
Standing Volume	MBF	511528	Moderate	Acres	8780
			Low	Acres	34021
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	50
Exist.& Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	0
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	36782	Leases	No.	0
Grizzly Bear			Leased Area	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	36782			

a. Timber

Lodgepole pine is the principal species at the higher elevations, with mixed species near the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness boundary.

b. Recreation

Elk hunting is a major recreational activity in the fall. Four commercial outfitters operate in the area.

c. Fish and Wildlife

Based on suitability of habitat and unconfirmed sightings, it is possible that the endangered Rocky Mountain gray wolf may inhabit this Area. Area 1921 is big-game summer range, and possible gray wolf and grizzly bear habitat. The northern part of the area is potential spring and summer wolf range, and the southwestern part could also serve as a travel corridor between the Gospel-Hump and River of No Return Wildernesses. The terrain adjoining the River of No Return Wilderness is bighorn sheep and mountain goat range. The area is also potential habitat for the peregrine falcon.

Small fish are found in the streams, but they are not anadromous.

d. Range and Grazing

Meadows along Noble, Grouse, Jack, and Little Mallard Creeks are used by cattle, horses, and game. Impacts are light. There are a few fences, and stock trails follow the stream bottoms. There are currently two grazing allotments in this Area.

e. Minerals

There are now 50 unpatented mining claims in Area 1921. The Little Mallard Quartz Placer in Section 12, T26N, R8E, has a heavy impact on about 10 acres. Approximately 100 acres west of Mammouth Mountain have also been heavily impacted by past mining activity.

f. Cultural Resources

There are no known cultural resource sites in this area.

g. Non-Federal Lands

Approximately 266 acres of patented mining claims lie within this area. The claims were patented in 1906, 1925, 1926, and 1927.

2. **Other Management Considerations**

Mallard Creek Ranch (HES 727 & 742) and Whitewater Ranch (HES 726) are private property located adjacent to this Area.

Many patented and 50 unpatented mining claims are located within and near this Area southeast of Dixie.

The forest cover is predominantly lodgepole pine. It has been determined that mountain pine beetles cause the most damage to lodgepole trees that are over 80 years old and over 8 inches in diameter, growing at elevations under 6,200 feet. The high percentage of lodgepole growing at these elevations makes the Area highly vulnerable to attacks by these insects, a species which is currently causing extensive damage in nearby parts of the Forest. Spot infestations of mountain pine beetle have been detected in the lower elevations along the southern part of the Area and around the Dixie Guard Station in the western part of the Area. Since no effective countermeasures have been developed against large-scale infestations, such as the one now faced by the Nez Perce, the only courses of action are to harvest the trees while they are still merchantable, or accept large areas of mortality (and most probably subsequent fire).

Spotted Knapweed infestations have been found in the Whitewater Ranch area.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See the introduction to this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The main contribution would be to increase the size of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Most features of the area are found in either the Frank Church-River of No Return or the Gospel-Hump Wilderness.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

Area 1921 was originally a part of a much larger Gospel-Hump roadless area and was twice considered by Congress for wilderness classification. The Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978 created the Gospel-Hump Wilderness, a 45,000-acre immediate development area, and a 92,000-acre multipurpose resource development area, but did not speak to the Jersey-Jack portion of the roadless area. Area 1921 was again considered for wilderness when the Central Idaho Wilderness Act was passed in 1980, and was again eliminated.

Local public opinion and the forest products industry are strongly opposed to wilderness classification for this area. Their view is that Congress has already considered the question twice, and that Congressional intent has been established.

The Idaho Wildlife Federation and the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association advocate wilderness classification. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) wants to manage this area with a threatened and endangered species emphasis. They want part of the area managed without additional roads for the first decade. Part of the area can be managed with roads, but the USFWS wants them closed at completion of the project.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. *Management Emphasis*

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-35, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section.

Table C-35
Management Emphasis-Gospel-Hump(Jersey-Jack) Roadless Area 1921 - 54,321 Acres
(Thousand Acres)

	Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
Management Emphasis	A (CD)	C	D	E	F	G(PA) &G1	H& H1	I	J	K	L
Nonwilderness											
Roaded Development	50.9	23.8	50.9	50.9	0	50.9	0	23.8	23.8	50.9	50.9
Unroaded Mgmt.	0	28.9	0	0	54.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minimum Level	3.4	1.6	3.4	3.4	0	3.4	0	1.6	1.6	3.4	3.4
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness											
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	54.3	28.9	28.9	0	0
Summary of Management Emphasis											
Developed-Decade 1	14.8	25.4	17.1	22.4	0	13.7	0	25.4	25.4	17.1	17.1
Developed-Decade 5	54.3	25.4	54.3	54.3	0	54.3	0	25.4	25.4	54.3	54.3
Roadless-Decade 1	39.5	28.9	37.2	31.9	54.3	40.6	0	0	0	37.2	37.2
Roadless-Decade 5	0	28.9	0	0	54.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0	54.3	28.9	28.9	0	0

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1921 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternatives H, H1, I, and J. This recommendation would increase opportunities for primitive recreation on the Forest and allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 511.5 MMBF on 6 percent of the Forest's tentatively suitable timberlands, would be foregone. Much of this timber is mature lodgepole pine at high risk for a Mountain Pine Beetle infestation.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims could be allowed to continue.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation such as outfitters would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness acreage would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would by localized and limited. Gray wolf, grizzly bear, and peregrine falcon habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Cultural resource surveys in wildernesses are performed only in response to specific requests, unless special legal requirements exist to do otherwise. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Recreation opportunities would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within three miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness provides full habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in all streams draining into the Salmon River.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber harvest would occur. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource on the Forest would be increased, as would the size of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

About 94 percent of Roadless Area 1921 is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives A, D, E, G, G1, K, and L; and 44 percent in Alternatives C, I, and J. General environmental effects are described in Chapter IV.

Between 13,700 acres (25 percent of the area) and 25,400 acres (47 percent of the area) would be opened to roaded development in the first decade.

Area 1921 would be entered in three places in the first decade. Two of these entries, in Sections 11 and 14, T26N, R8E, would access Noble, Rhett, and the head of Blowout Creek. The third entry, in Section 22, T26N, R9E, would access Little Mallard and Summit Creek. Actual mileage would depend on timber harvest objectives of each alternative.

Alternative G, the Preferred Alternative, would open about 13,700 acres to roaded development in the first decade.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber and mining industries would benefit from this management emphasis; the outfitting industry would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

Effects of the roaded management emphasis on nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, and project-level coordination among timber harvest, road construction and habitat management would be required. Area 1921 is potential gray wolf, grizzly bear, and peregrine falcon habitat, which may be affected by management activities. Adequate security and an adequate prey base would be maintained for the wolf and grizzly bear; falcon habitat is outside areas likely to be roaded.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development would provide for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance of sites caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Logging has the potential for altering the amount and distribution of cover and forage areas and changing elk movements, distribution, and habitat utilization. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated using the North Idaho Elk Coordinating Guidelines on a project-by-project basis.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction; however, at least 60 percent of potential sediment from roads would be mitigated, and greater mitigations would be possible with application of best management practices on favorable landforms.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Minimum management requirements would be met or exceeded. Vegetative diversity would tend toward seral successional stages in the timber harvest areas.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of the area would be foregone; however, over 28,000 acres of Area 1921 would remain unroaded at the end of the first decade.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

All of Roadless Area 1921 is assigned to this management emphasis in Alternative F, and 53 percent in Alternative C. All existing uses could continue. Projects for prescribed burning using planned ignitions could be implemented.

Wilderness possibilities should remain largely intact.

Continued roadless management of this roadless area would have effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management.

The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Nez Perce National Forest (Chapter II, Section 18) are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Individuals and groups advocating roadless management would be supported; those advocating either roaded development or wilderness classification would not be supported.

Effect of an unroaded management emphasis on other nonpriced resources:

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access. Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low. Animals would be secure. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation could be held to present natural rates.

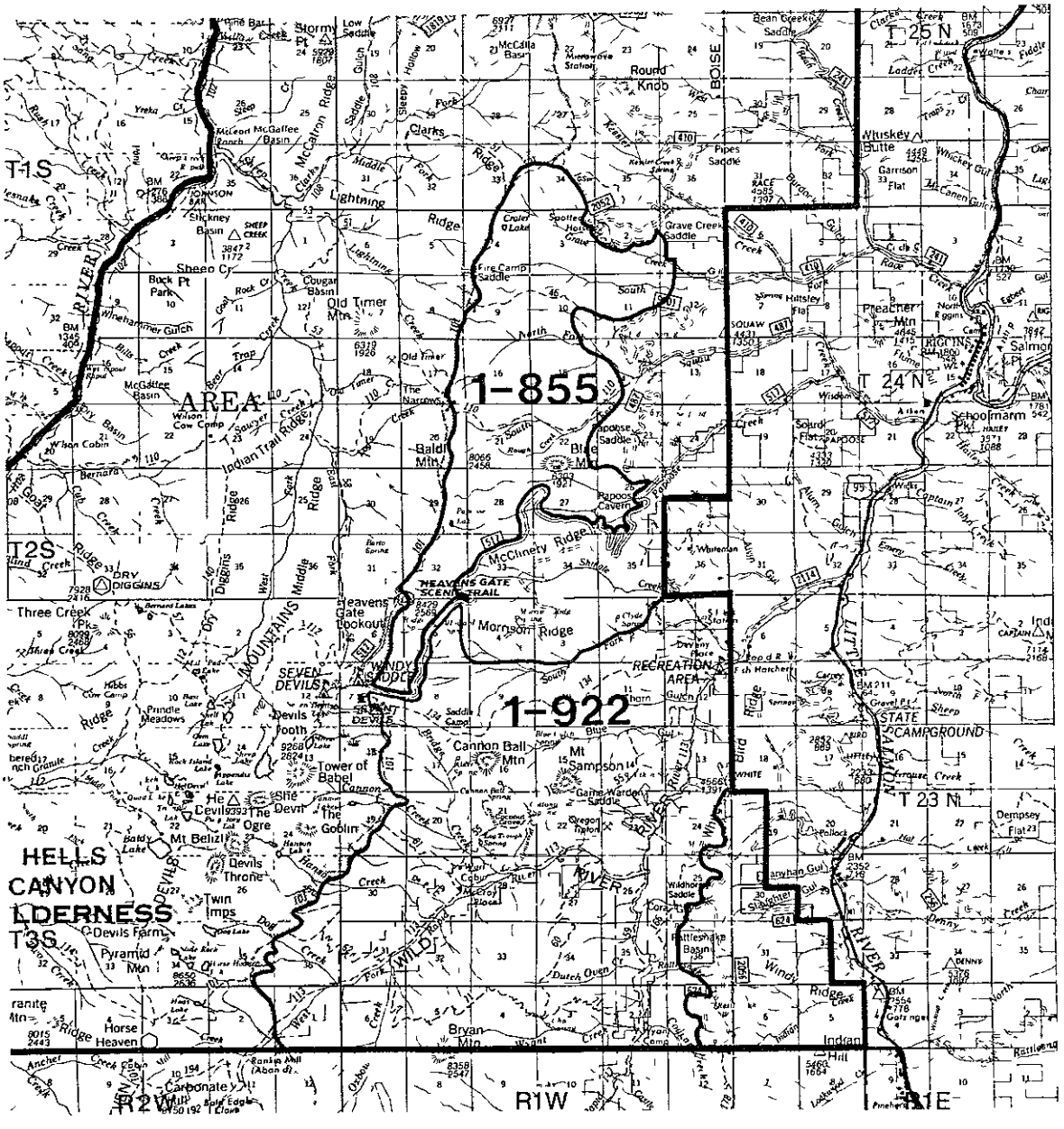
- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management provides more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management on 3,400 acres (6 percent of the area) in Alternatives A, D, E, G, G1, K, and L; and 1,600 acres (3 percent) in Alternatives C, I, and J. These are mostly lands not suitable for timber production.

Since roads may or may not be constructed, opportunities for wilderness may or may not change; however, in those alternatives which contain large acreages of roaded development, effects would resemble those of that management emphasis.


I-855
AREA
I-922
RECREATION AREA
STATE CAMPGROUND
HELLS CANYON
WILDERNESS
T1S
T2S
T3S
T25N
T24N
T23N
R2W
R1W
R1E
Heavens Gate Lookout
Three Creek
Mormon Ridge
McChesney Ridge
Baldy Mtn
Old Timer Mtn
Cannon Ball Mtn
Mt Sampson
Tower of Babel
Devils Throne
Twin Imps
Pyramid Mtn
Mt Belzi
Bryan Mtn
Carbonate Mtn
Horse Heaven
Round Knob
Grave Creek Saddle
Fire Camp Saddle
Pheasant Mtn
Schoolmarm Pk
Blue Mtn
Papoose Cavern
Dry Diggins
Sheep Cr
Lightning Ridge
Indian Trail Ridge
Seven Devils Mountains
Snake River
Salmon River
Boise

ROADLESS AREA 1922 -- RAPID RIVER

76,036 Acres

Two-thirds of this Area, 52,736 acres, is on the Payette National Forest, and the remaining 23,300 acres are on the Nez Perce National Forest. However, National Forest boundaries do not affect the wilderness capabilities of any roadless area, and the entire area is considered as a whole. As stated in Chapter I, the Payette is the lead Forest in consideration of this area for wilderness, and discussion also appears in the Payette National Forest Environmental Impact Statement.

A. DESCRIPTION

The Nez Perce portion is in the southwest corner of the Forest. It is bordered by the Hells Canyon Wilderness on the west, the Payette National Forest on the south, road 624 and the National Forest boundary on the east, and road 517 and the South Fork of Shingle Creek on the north. This Area contains the Rapid Wild and Scenic River.

Access is via Road 517 on the north, and Roads 2114 and 624 on the east. The Black Lake road furnishes access to the Payette portion. Several trails also enter the area.

Slopes are steep and the topography is rugged. The elevation ranges from 2,180 feet where the Rapid River crosses the Forest boundary to 8,320 feet at Bryan Mountain. The area is drained entirely by Rapid River. Below the confluence of the main and west forks, a ponderosa pine and bunchgrass vegetation predominates. Above the confluence, the area is forested, and the slopes rise to an alpine environment. The area has western ponderosa forest, grand fir/Douglas-fir forest, and wheatgrass/bunchgrass ecosystems.

Rock types are mainly Seven Devils Volcanics, Columbia River Basalt, and Idaho Batholith granitics. The soils are mostly derived from volcanic parent materials and are dark colored, fine-textured, and rocky. Scattered areas of light, coarse textured, and rocky soils are also present.

The climate of the area is controlled primarily by the Aleutian Low and the Pacific High. The Aleutian Low is responsible for heavy precipitation, mostly snow in the winter and rain in the spring. The Pacific High causes hot and relatively dry summers.

Rapid River and the West Fork of Rapid River from the headwaters to the Forest boundary are part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The River received this designation in order to protect water quality for Salmon fisheries. A chinook salmon hatchery operated by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game is located just outside the Nez Perce Forest boundary on the northeast side of the roadless area. This hatchery was built by the Idaho Power Company as compensation for fishery losses involved with the construction of the Hells Canyon Dam complex, and it uses water from Rapid River.

The current major uses include grazing, hunting, hiking, fishing, and horseback riding. Elk and deer winter range exists at the lower elevations.

Riggins, with a permanent population of 500, is the nearest town. McCall, with a permanent population of 2,200 and a summer recreation population of 15,000, is the nearest large community.

B. CAPABILITY

1. Natural Integrity and Appearance

Except for a few localized impacts, long-term ecological processes are intact and operating. A long history of grazing has had little effect. Trails and mining sites are limited to less than 1 percent of the area.

The Rapid River drainage has largely escaped the wildfires that devastated entire drainages on both Forests in the past. Despite a history of human activity extending back to the earliest days of settlement in Idaho and Adams Counties, natural processes have been little disturbed.

2. Solitude

Total acreage of Area 1922 is 76,036, and the 194,132-acre Hells Canyon Wilderness adjoins it. Thus, from the standpoint of acreage, the potential for solitude is outstanding.

Topography is highly dissected and furnishes excellent screening, although the well-developed trail system tends to concentrate visitors along creek bottoms and on ridgetops. Vegetative cover ranges from dense over much of the area to minimal on some of the south slopes at lower elevations.

A few off-site intrusions are evident from the ridgetops, but they are not close-by. On-site intrusions include grazing cattle and range-related manmade structures in some parts of the area. Sounds originating outside of the area may carry up to a mile inside.

3. Primitive Recreation Opportunity

The area is diverse in everything except lakes, and these are found in the adjoining wilderness. Challenging terrain is present: much of the area is steep and rocky, with cliffs and bluffs. Temperatures range from cold to very hot; thunderstorms and snowstorms occur in season. Rattlesnakes are common in the lower elevations.

Although developed trails and trail bridges are present, developed camp facilities are not.

Area 1922, along with the Hells Canyon Wilderness, offers outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation.

4. Manageability and Boundaries

Area 1922 could be managed as a part of the Hells Canyon Wilderness. Administrative costs would probably rise since the Wilderness boundary would be very near the Forest boundaries; policing motorized trespass and other violations would probably be necessary.

If the area were to become wilderness, there would be no question of compliance with water quality standards specified in Public Law 94-199 and discussed below.

Under a wilderness classification, problems could arise with the private property inside the area. Purchases, trades, or easements may not be possible; routes of ingress and egress may be demanded by landowners.

Several boundary options are examined in the alternatives. Among them are a boundary that includes the entire area less existing developments, a boundary that follows the ridges defining the Rapid River drainage, and a boundary that excludes all of the area on the east side of Rapid River.

In addition, the northern and eastern boundaries could be modified to make the area more manageable. The South Fork of Shingle Creek, near the northern boundary, drains into Rapid River below the fish hatchery. Roads could be constructed and timber harvested there with applicable best management practices and sediment mitigation measures. The same is true of the area adjacent to Lockwood Point, which drains directly into the Little Salmon River.

Adjustments could also be made on the eastern boundary to eliminate signs of past activity and some of the private property located there.

Two proposed National Natural Landmarks exist in this Area.

C. AVAILABILITY

1. Nonwilderness Resource Potentials

Nonwilderness resource potentials for Area 1922 are shown in Table C-36. Current uses of the area are also discussed in this section.

a. Recreation

None of the River is suitable for canoes, kayaks, or rubber rafts because it is too shallow. Fishing is an important recreational use early in the season, before the weather gets hot and the water levels drop. Big-game hunting is done during the fall season. Commercial outfitters operate in the area. Black Lake and Pyramid Peak are popular recreation and scenic attractions.

For the most part, trails are well-constructed with bridges at major stream crossings, and run the full length of both the Main Fork and the West Fork of Rapid River and elsewhere. Some cuts and fills are large enough to create a moderate visual impact.

Trail 166, from Wildhorse Saddle to Wyant Camp, was built as a wagon road, but is now maintained as a trail and used by motorcyclists.

Table C-36
Selected Resource Values - Rapid River Roadless Area 1922 - 76,036 Acres
(Specified Units)

Category	Unit		Category	Unit	
Gross Acres	Acres	77116	Wildlife - Big Game		
Net Acres	Acres	76036	Summer Habitat	Acres	55895
			Winter Habitat	Acres	6663
Recreation			Specific-Elk		
Primitive	Acres	0	Summer Habitat	Acres	55895
Semiprim.Nonmotor	Acres	76036	Winter Habitat	Acres	6663
Semiprim.Motor.	Acres	0	Specific-Deer		
Roaded Natural	Acres	0	Summer Habitat	Acres	55895
			Winter Habitat	Acres	6663
Range					
Existing Obligated			Significant Fisheries		
Suitable	Acres	15415	Stream Miles	Miles	46
Allotments	No.	2			
AUMs	AUMs	1650	Stream Habitat	Hab.ac	60
Existing Vacant			Lakes	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0	Lake Habitat	Hab.ac	0
Allotments	No.	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Water Developments		
Proposed			Existing	No.	0
Suitable	Acres	0			
AUMs	AUMs	0	Minerals		
			Hardrock Potential		
Timber			Very High	Acres	0
Tentative Suitable	Acres	54745	High	Acres	0
Standing Volume	MBF	638510	Moderate	Acres	0
			Low	Acres	76036
Corridors			Mining Claims	No.	30
Exist. & Potential	No.	0	Oil & Gas Potential		
			Very High	Acres	0
Wildlife - T&E			High	Acres	0
Bald Eagle			Moderate	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	0	Low	Acres	76036
Gray Wolf			Oil & Gas Leases		
Habitat	Acres	0	Leases	No.	0
Peregrine Falcon			Leased Area	Acres	0
Habitat	Acres	8320			

b. Fish and Wildlife

The usual big-game species--elk, deer, bear, and cougar--inhabit Area 1922. Moose are scarce, owing to limited habitat. Cliffs and bluffs in the area offer potential habitat for peregrine falcons. Mountain goat and bighorn sheep are also found in the high country.

Spring and summer chinook salmon, steelhead, cutthroat, Dolly Varden, and rainbow are present in Rapid River. Spring chinook are intercepted at the hatchery; other anadromous fish are allowed to continue upstream.

c. Water Quality

Public Law 94-199, December 1975, designated Rapid River as a Wild River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Act states that "the Secretary (of Agriculture) shall establish a corridor along the segments of Rapid River and may not undertake or permit to be undertaken any activities on adjacent public land which would impair the water quality of Rapid River."

In order to comply with the law, the Nez Perce and Payette National Forests have agreed that no activities will be permitted in the Rapid River drainage unless the Forest Service can guarantee that water quality will not be impaired. The Forests have also agreed that landforms, slopes, soil types, vegetative cover, proximity of streams, and rapidity of sediment delivery vary throughout the drainage and that activities which may be permitted in some parts of the drainage may be prohibited in others.

In addition, the two Forests have coordinated development of land management plans to insure compatible management of the Rapid River drainage.

d. Range and Grazing

Grazing has a long history in Area 1922; the earliest Forest Service maps show grazing allotments. This history is shown in the number of named springs in the area. A high percentage of the land is suitable range. Range-related developments are also present, such as water tanks, reservoirs, fences, and exclosures. Range rehabilitation projects such as seeding and fertilizing have been carried out in the past.

e. Timber

Standing volume is estimated at 638.5 MMBF on 54,745 acres of tentatively suitable lands. Dominant timber types are ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and spruce.

f. Minerals

Around the turn of the century, there was much local interest in possible gold and copper deposits in the Rapid River country, and some exploratory work was done. Evidence of this activity, mostly small tailing piles and adits, can be found in the area. According to geologists, copper mineralization is present, but economical mining today would be improbable. There are currently about 30 unpatented mining claims in Area 1922, and a small hydropower plant may be developed on Boulder Creek.

g. Cultural Resources

The first settlement occurred around the turn of the century. A few old cabins and at least two graves are known to exist, along with the remnants of past mining activity.

h. Non-Federal Lands

Three parcels of private land lie entirely within the Nez Perce portion of the roadless area, with others on or near the eastern boundary. Eighty acres of mining claims (the Oregon-Tipton) were patented in 1908. A 160-acre homestead on the main fork above the confluence with the west fork was patented in 1910, and another 80-acre homestead was patented in 1924. A fourth parcel of 130 acres (the McRae place) was acquired by the Government in 1979. There are buildings on some of these sites.

The Payette portion of Area 1922 contains 640 State grant acres and one 120-acre parcel of private property.

2. Other Management Considerations

This Area is managed as a roadless area with special consideration for livestock forage production and wildlife winter range including prescribed burning, range improvement installation, aerial grass seeding, etc.

If this Area is designated as wilderness, then the tracts of private land discussed above would need to be purchased, and the road that provides access to this land would have to be closed. The Area boundary could be adjusted to eliminate much of this private land.

D. NEED

1. Proximity to Other Designated Wildernesses and Population Centers

See Section 1 of this appendix.

2. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

The main contribution would be to add a tributary of the little Salmon River to the Hells Canyon Wilderness. Most of the ecosystems present in Area 1922 are represented in other nearby wildernesses, but Rocky Mountain grand fir/Douglas-fir No. 3110-13 has been identified by the Payette Forest as a target ecosystem.

3. Public Interest, Concern, and Comment Summary

Congress looked at this area when the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and Wilderness were established in 1975. Rapid River was named a Wild River, but the adjacent lands were not designated wilderness.

Many people would like to see this Area remain roadless.

The Idaho Wildlife Federation and the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association both advocate wilderness classification for the area.

Management without roads is desired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

E. ALTERNATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Management Emphasis

Management emphasis by alternative is shown in Table C-37, and the effects of each management emphasis on the wilderness characteristics of the area are described in this section. Background information is located in the introduction to this appendix.

Table C-37
Management Emphasis-Rapid River Roadless Area 1922 - 76,036 Acres
Nez Perce and Payette National Forests
(Thousand Acres)

Payette NF Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative										
Management Emphasis	A	B	C	E	F (CD)	I	N	O	P3	R2 (PA)
Nonwilderness										
Roaded Development:										
Payette	23.2	23.4	17.8	8.3	8.3	17.8	0	23.4	17.8	9.5
Nez Perce	0	18.1	0	0	0	0	0	18.1	0	3.9
	23.2	41.5	17.8	8.3	8.3	17.8	0	41.5	17.8	13.4
Unroaded Management:										
Payette	29.5	29.3	0	44.4	21.1	0	0	29.3	0	43.2
Nez Perce	23.3	0	0	23.3	23.3	0	0	0	0	19.4
	52.8	29.3	0	67.7	44.4	0	0	29.3	0	62.6
Minimum Level:										
Payette	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nez Perce	0	5.2	0	0	0	0	0	5.2	0	0
	0	5.2	0	0	0	0	0	5.2	0	0
Wilderness										
Wilderness:										
Payette	0	0	34.9	0	23.3	34.9	52.7	0	34.9	0
Nez Perce	0	0	23.3	0	0	23.3	23.3	0	23.3	0
	0	0	58.2	0	23.3	58.2	76.0	0	58.2	0

Table C-37 (continued)
Management Emphasis-Rapid River Roadless Area 1922 - 76,036 Acres
Nez Perce and Payette National Forests
(Thousand Acres)

Payette NF Alternatives -(CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative

	A	B	C	E	F(CD)	I	N	O	P3	R2(PA)
Summary of Management Emphasis										
Developed-Decade 1:										
Payette	23.2	23.4	17.8	8.3	8.3	17.8	0	23.4	17.8	9.5
Nez Perce	0	3.9	0	0	0	0	0	3.9	0	3.9
	23.2	27.3	17.8	8.3	8.3	17.8	0	27.3	17.8	13.4
Developed-Decade 5:										
Payette	23.2	23.4	17.8	8.3	8.3	17.8	0	23.4	17.8	9.5
Nez Perce	0	3.9	0	0	0	0	0	3.9	0	3.9
	23.2	27.3	17.8	8.3	8.3	17.8	0	27.3	17.8	13.4
Roadless-Decade 1:										
Payette	29.5	29.3	0	44.4	21.1	0	0	29.3	0	43.2
Nez Perce	23.3	19.4	0	23.3	23.3	0	0	19.4	0	19.4
	52.8	48.7	0	67.7	44.4	0	0	48.7	0	62.6
Roadless-Decade 5:										
Payette	29.5	29.3	0	44.4	21.1	0	0	29.3	0	43.2
Nez Perce	23.3	19.4	0	23.3	23.3	0	0	19.4	0	19.4
	52.8	48.7	0	67.7	44.4	0	0	48.7	0	62.6
Wilderness:										
Payette	0	0	34.9	0	23.3	34.9	52.7	0	34.9	0
Nez Perce	0	0	23.3	0	0	23.3	23.3	0	23.3	0
	0	0	58.2	0	23.3	58.2	76.0	0	58.2	0

For the purposes of this evaluation, the Nez Perce Forest alternatives have been fitted to the Payette Forest alternatives on the basis of goals, objectives and outputs common to both alternative sets. The relationship between the alternative sets of the two Forests is shown in Table C-38.

Table C-38
Alignment of Alternatives
Payette and Nez Perce National Forests

	Alternatives - (CD)-Current Direction; (PA)-Preferred Alternative									
Payette	A	B	C	E	F	I	N	O	P3	R2
Nez Perce	L	D	I	C	A	K	H	E	J	G

2. Impacts

a. Designation: Wilderness
Management Emphasis: Wilderness

All of Area 1922 is recommended for wilderness classification in Alternative N. From 23,285 to 34,936 acres of the Payette Forest portion is recommended in Alternatives C, F, I, and P3. In Alternatives C, I, and P3, all of the Nez Perce portion is recommended. Alternative R2, the proposed action, does not recommend wilderness classification for any part of Area 1922.

This management emphasis would increase opportunities for primitive recreation, and, with the exception of grazing, would allow ecosystems in the area to be affected by natural processes only.

Timber management possibilities, including harvest of approximately 638.5 MMBF in the area, would be foregone; however, much of this volume may not have been available in any event because of constraints imposed by water quality standards in Public Law 94-199, which would limit access road construction.

Some existing uses, such as use of motorized equipment, would have to be terminated, but grazing at existing levels and mineral development on existing valid claims and leases could be allowed to continue.

Big-game habitat improvement programs that involve prescribed burning on winter ranges would have to rely on unplanned ignitions unless current regulations are changed.

Maximum protection would be afforded the Rapid River Corridor, and there would be no question of compliance with Public Law 94-199.

In general, nonpriced resource values are enhanced by wilderness management. The major nonpriced outputs considered by the Payette and Nez Perce Forests are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and

endangered species (T&E) habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives; however, wilderness classification precludes timber harvest, and the wood products industry would not benefit under this emphasis. Industries relating to primitive recreation, such as outfitters, would benefit. Individuals and groups advocating increased wilderness would be supported; those advocating roaded development would not be supported.

Effects of wilderness management on other nonpriced resource values:

- T&E Habitat--The possibility of human intrusion would be low. Management activities would be localized and limited. Possible peregrine falcon habitat would be fully protected.

- Cultural Resources--Disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These would change to semiprimitive nonmotorized for that part of the area within 3 miles of motorized use and to primitive for the rest of the area.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management would be low. Animals would be more secure than under any other management emphasis. Habitat improvement programs using prescribed fire would be limited to unplanned (lightning) ignitions, and wildfire could play a more natural role. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--When an area becomes wilderness, the visual quality objective becomes preservation. Visual quality would be maintained.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Wilderness would provide full natural habitat potential. High water quality would be maintained in Rapid River.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Percentages of old-growth habitat in wilderness would be the highest possible, since no timber is cut. Present diversity would be maintained.

- Wilderness--The wilderness resource in central Idaho would increase.

b. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Roaded Development

Large parts of Area 1922 are assigned to this management emphasis in Alternatives B and O. In addition, parts of the Payette portion are assigned to prescriptions that require roads in Alternatives A, C, E, F, I, P3, and R2.

The Nez Perce assigns all of its portion to roaded development prescriptions in Alternatives B and O. In all other alternatives except R2, all of the Nez Perce portion is either recommended for wilderness classification or assigned to continued roadless management. In Alternative R2, 3,900 acres of the Nez

Perce portion are assigned to roaded development. The Preferred Alternative, assigns 13,442 acres, 18 percent of the area, to roaded development prescriptions.

Approximately 638.5 MMBF of standing timber volume would be available in the entire area if harvests are not constrained by legal water quality requirements -- 507 MMBF of this volume is on the Payette Forest, 131.5 MMBF is on the Nez Perce. The full Nez Perce volume would be available only in Alternatives B and O. In Alternative R2, 7 MMBF would be available from 3,900 acres not assigned to either wilderness or continued roadless management. These 3,900 acres drain into Rapid River below the fish hatchery and are exempt from water quality requirements of PL 94-199. Standard Forestwide water quality mitigation measures and best management practices would apply in this area.

On the Nez Perce, these 3,900 acres would be opened to roaded development in the first decade. They are located on the northern edge of the roadless area in the head of Shingle Creek, and would be entered from the existing road system. First decade roaded development activity on the Payette would involve about 4,000 acres in the Lockwood Point vicinity. These lands drain into the Little Salmon River, and access would be via the Whitebird Ridge Road, most of which is already in place and is on the Nez Perce Forest. In both cases, road mileage would depend on timber objectives of each alternative.

Major nonpriced benefits considered by both Forests are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, visual quality, anadromous fish habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

Traditional lifestyles would be maintained and community stability would be within parameters for rapid change in all alternatives. Timber, mining, and livestock industries would benefit from this management emphasis; industries relating to primitive recreation would not benefit. Individuals and groups advocating roaded development would be supported; those advocating wilderness would not be supported.

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would increase with roaded development, but areas likely to be occupied by peregrine falcons are unlikely to be roaded.

- Cultural Resources--Roaded development provides for a more thorough inventory, but increased disturbance caused by easier access would be likely.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--These decrease as roadless areas are brought under roaded management. Roaded natural settings would increase.

- Big-Game Habitat--As roadless areas are brought under development, greater coordination would be needed between road construction and habitat management. Effects of roaded development on elk summer habitat would be mitigated on a project-by-project basis.

Most of the winter range in Area 1922 is on the Nez Perce Forest portion. These ranges would be improved when site preparation is designed to emphasize browse production and natural tree generation.

- Visual Quality--This would change in response to specific visual quality objectives, from retention to partial retention on some lands to modification and maximum modification on others. Visual quality would be lowered on all roadless lands opened to roaded development. More roads and harvest activity would be visible from high points in the area, but stream bottoms and the Rapid River Corridor would be largely unaffected.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Increased sedimentation and resultant adverse effects on water quality and fish habitat would be likely in streams adjacent to road construction. Since little if any stream sedimentation is permissible under the standards of PL 94-199, mitigations approaching 100 percent must be assured. This is not possible in most cases; thus, rigid constraints would be imposed on road construction in Area 1922.

- Old-Growth Habitat--This will exceed minimum management requirements in all alternatives.

- Wilderness--Wilderness possibilities in the roaded part of Area 1922 would be foregone; however, acreage of any size adjoining the Hells Canyon Wilderness could be added to that Wilderness at any time.

c. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Unroaded Management

All of Area 1922 except 8,347 acres on the Payette Forest would be managed without roads in Alternative E. In Alternatives A, E, and F, all of the Nez Perce portion is assigned to roadless prescriptions, and parts of the Payette portion would be managed without roads in Alternatives A, B, F, O, and R2. Alternative R2, the proposed action, would leave 62,594 acres, 82 percent of the area, in roadless management.

Timber harvest and mining would not be precluded, but they would have to be accomplished without roads. All existing uses could continue.

Continued roadless management of large roadless acreages has effects on nonpriced resource values that are similar to those of wilderness management.

The major nonpriced outputs considered are maintenance of traditional lifestyles, community stability, threatened and endangered species (T&E) habitat, cultural resources, semiprimitive recreation opportunities, big-game habitat, old-growth-dependent species habitat, and wilderness.

- T&E Habitat--Potential for human intrusion would remain at present levels. Habitat would be maintained.

- Cultural Resources--Possibilities for a rapid inventory would be reduced because of difficult access, but disturbance of sites would be minimal.

- Semiprimitive Recreation Opportunities--Existing opportunities would be retained.

- Big-Game Habitat--The need for coordination between habitat management and other management activities would be low. Animals would be secure. Habitat improvement programs requiring planned fire ignitions could be accomplished. Elk summer habitat would be managed at a high percentage of potential.

- Visual Quality--The area would retain present visual qualities.

- Anadromous Fish Habitat--Since roads would not be constructed, stream sedimentation would be held to natural rates.

- Old-Growth Habitat--Roadless management provides more than adequate habitat for old-growth-dependent species. Overall vegetative diversity would tend toward old growth.

- Wilderness--Wilderness qualities would remain intact.

d. Designation: Nonwilderness
Management Emphasis: Minimum Level

This prescription emphasizes a maintenance-only level of management. Alternatives B and O assign 5,200 Nez Perce acres to these prescriptions.

Since roads may or may not be constructed, wilderness possibilities may or may not change. However, water quality constraints in Area 1922 make extensive road construction unlikely, so effects of this management emphasis would resemble those of unroaded management.

APPENDIX D

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS ON THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

TIMBER VALUES, REAL PRICE INCREASE, AND

WILDLIFE AND RECREATION VALUES

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I. INTRODUCTION

Of primary interest in National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans (Forest Plans) are the choices made about how land is to be managed: how much timber is to be harvested, how this will impact the potential timber supply and demand in Northern Idaho, how many miles of road will be constructed, and, on the other end of the spectrum, what lands are recommended for wilderness or will be managed with minimal human-caused disturbance. In part, the choices are analyzed through a linear programming model that selects lands for various uses to optimally meet the objective of an alternative. The model focuses on quantitative information. Using the outputs (harvest levels, etc.) generated from management activities assumed to occur on given portions of the land as a base, the valued (economic) benefits and costs are compared over time.

During the public review period for the Nez Perce National Forest Proposed Forest Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), much concern was expressed, both in written comments and at public meetings, that the Forest Plan overestimated the present and future value of timber outputs, and underestimated the present and future value of wildlife and recreation opportunities.

The concern is that this perceived overvaluing of timber and undervaluing of wildlife and recreation opportunities was biasing the land assignments in the Preferred Alternative toward timber production at the expense of wildlife and recreation opportunities.

Value information consists of two parts. First, a base (starting) value is determined from prices of market commodities or current estimates derived for nonmarket commodities. The second part is a projection of real changes in these base values in the future. These projections are based on expected changes in supply and demand.

The timber prices used in the Forest Plan and EIS are based on bid prices for the years 1975-1980. The original real price projections of timber values are based on the 1980 Resource Planning Act (RPA) assessment.

Revised base timber values were calculated using actual receipt data for the years 1975-1984 (See discussion below on the methodology used to calculate the revised stumpage values for this analysis). Price projections used in this sensitivity analysis are from the draft 1985 RPA program (Alternative B).

After the Draft Environmental Impact Statement was released to the public, concerns by the timber industry were raised over limited supplies of timber in the State of Idaho and the potential impact of changes in demand. Also, there were questions as to the amount of lands in the suitable timber base and if there were opportunities to increase the planned harvest level should demand (price) for timber dramatically increase. In response to these concerns, the Forest completed a timber supply study for the State of Idaho. The results of this study as well as additional information on timber resource suitability and supply and demand analysis for this National Forest are included in this overall analysis of the Preferred Alternative.

II. SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF RESOURCE VALUES AND PROJECTIONS

The focus of the analysis summarized in this Appendix is on two sets of data in the model: (1) timber values; and (2) wildlife and recreation values. The Forest Plan alternatives were based on a particular base value projected into the future. The question analyzed here is: when different base and future values are used in the model, how much does the result change (e.g. present net value, suitable timber acres, allowable sale quantity, etc).

A. Calculation of timber stumpage values for the sensitivity analysis

The base stumpage values in FORPLAN were originally calculated from bid prices during the years 1975 to 1980. This time period included one complete cycle in the lumber market. Bid prices in that cycle were relatively higher than they were in the 1981 through 1984 cycle. Because of the current law which allowed purchasers to "buy-back" many of these sales, the bid prices for this period also overstate the actual prices that were received for stumpage. During the 4-year period from 1981 to 1984, bid prices have been relatively low. To adjust the prices in FORPLAN to a wider base period that includes both relatively high and low points in the lumber market, 10-year average prices (1975-1984) were calculated. The average prices are based on actual receipts (cut values) rather than reported high bids. The procedure used to calculate the average price is as follows:

- The total cut sawtimber volume and the net value received for that sawtimber was calculated for each calendar year using data from the Forest "cut and sold" report. The values were adjusted for inflation to constant (1978) dollars.

- The net value from the cut and sold reports does not include in-kind road payments made by timber purchasers to the Forest Service. The average amount of road credits per thousand board feet (MBF) were calculated for each Forest and calendar year using the Timber Appraisal (Transaction Evidence) data base. The amounts were then adjusted for inflation to constant dollars.

- The net receipts per MBF and the road credits per MBF were summed then multiplied by the sawtimber volume cut in each calendar year. This sum is the total gross receipts per calendar year.

- The total gross receipts were summed for the 10-year period then divided by the total volume cut. The result is a weighted average high bid price per MBF that is based on actual Forest Service receipts.

Table D-1 shows these calculations for the Nez Perce National Forest. To appraise the stumpage values associated with individual timber sales, Region 1 of the Forest Service has developed statistical models which predict price on the basis of physical sale characteristics. Because these models are based on data from past sales, the procedure is termed a "transaction-evidence" method of appraisal. The current models are based on sales sold during the 36-month period from January 1982 to December 1984. Separate models are used for the East Side and West Side appraisal zones.

Table D-1
Summary of Sawtimber Volume and Value by Year, Nez Perce National Forest

Year	Volume (MMBF)	Value Per MBF	Inflation Factor	Net Value	Road Credits	Gross Value	Total Value
1984	54.38	24.90	0.66	16.38	20.17	36.55	1,987.72
1983	53.03	46.33	0.68	31.60	12.86	44.46	2,357.47
1982	19.94	25.18	0.71	17.82	28.63	46.45	926.31
1981	50.99	27.19	0.75	20.48	53.98	74.46	3,796.51
1980	65.62	34.99	0.82	28.83	27.34	56.17	3,685.80
1979	97.39	45.91	0.90	41.36	37.98	79.34	7,727.34
1978	97.71	19.35	0.98	18.95	41.98	60.93	5,953.24
1977	78.59	20.54	1.05	21.62	38.00	59.62	4,685.83
1976	115.33	36.29	1.11	40.39	23.88	64.27	7,412.49
1975	82.20	19.16	1.17	22.42	33.91	56.33	4,630.32
Totals	715.18						43,163.05
				Base period price per MBF			60.35

The West Side zone consists of the Forests in Northern Idaho and Western Montana. These include the Bitterroot, Idaho Panhandle, Clearwater, Flathead, Kootenai, Lolo, and Nez Perce Forests. Stumpage prices in the West Side zone are highly dependent on the species being cut and the quality of the logs removed. Because stands are harvested using a variety of logging methods and silvicultural systems, logging costs are also highly variable in this zone.

Physical variables that reflect timber and site quality are included in the West Side model. The model predicts that the stumpage price per MBF increases as the "lumber price" (SPLT), average tree diameter (ADBH) and the harvest volume per acre increases. The lumber price is a measure of the value of the products that can be derived from the stumpage. By constructing FORPLAN economic tables that reflect the separate species value (lumber prices) of each timber yield table, value differences due to species are accounted for. Within each FORPLAN economic table, separate values are given for up to six diameter classes and five volume classes. The effects on value of both tree size and the harvest volume per acre are thus directly considered by the model.

The steepness of the land and the soil sensitivity affect the manner in which a timber stand can be logged. Areas of gentle slopes and stable soils are normally tractor logged. Steep slopes and unstable soil areas must be logged using more expensive cable systems. The West Side model predicts separate stumpage values for tractor and cable logging. The effect of yarding distance on value is also predicted for each method (costs increase as the yarding distance and road spacing increase). Although helicopter sales were not included when developing the West Side model, logging cost differences between cable and helicopter sales can also be estimated. The influence of the logging method on value is considered in FORPLAN by making separate sets of economic tables for each method.

The West Side model was developed for all Forests using sale data covering the period from January 1982 to December 1984. It must, therefore, be adjusted to

fit the average 10-year base price that was calculated for the Nez Perce National Forest. The procedure for adjusting the model is as follows:

- The average value of each physical variable is calculated for the 10-year period (1975-1984);
- The averages are then substituted into the model. This gives the average stumpage price per MBF predicted by the coefficients of the equation; and
- A plus or minus constant term is then inserted into the equation such that the average predicted price equals the average 10-year base price.

In summary, new base stumpage prices for this sensitivity analysis have been developed for the Nez Perce National Forest using actual receipt data covering the period 1975 to 1984. Variations in stumpage values due to physical characteristics of the stand and site are modeled using the latest research information available.

The results of applying the West Side regression coefficients to the mean variable values for the Nez Perce are shown in Table D-2. The coefficients and applicable variable values are adjusted for inflation to first-quarter 1978 dollars. The mean values were calculated using transaction-evidence sale data covering the period 1975 through 1984. In these calculations each sale was weighted according to its size in million board feet.

The mean stumpage price calculated by the regression coefficients is $92.17 per MBF. The actual mean stumpage price for the 10-year base period is $60.35 per MBF. The difference between these two numbers, i.e. -31.82, is added as a constant term to the predictive equation. The stumpage price model for the Nez Perce is thus:

$$Y = -31.82 + 0.383\ SPLT + 1.313\ ADBH + 4.179\ LNVPA - 6.760\ YDTRA - 14.646\ YDGDL - 13.036\ YDSKY - 0.1538\ PVSK$$

Where:

- Y = the stumpage price per MBF in 1978 dollars
- SPLT = the lumber price per MBF in 1978 dollars
- ADBH = the average d.b.h. in inches
- LNVPA = the natural log of the harvest volume per acre in MBF
- YDTRA = the proportion of the volume tractor-logged times the mean external yarding distance in thousands of feet
- YDGDL = the proportion groundlead times the yarding distance in thousands of feet
- YDSKY = the proportion skyline times the yarding distance in thousands of feet
- PVSK = the percent of the volume logged by skyline

Table D-2
Stumpage Price Model, (1978 Dollars)

Variable	Coefficient	Mean Value	Factor
SPLT	0.3830	187.170	71.69
ADBH	1.3130	14.302	18.78
LNVPA	4.1790	2.787	11.65
YDTRA	-6.7600	0.493	-3.33
YDGDL	-14.6460	0.046	-0.67
YDSKY	-13.036	0.216	-2.82
PVSK	-0.1538	20.348	-3.13
		Predicted Price	92.27
		10-Year Price	60.35
		Constant	-31.82

In most timber sales, brush disposal (BD) collections are taken directly from purchasers as they harvest timber. This money is then used by the Forest Service to do slash disposal and site preparation work. In the Nez Perce FORPLAN model, all Forest Service slash disposal costs, regardless of funding source, are included in the economic tables. To prevent the double counting of these costs, the average BD collection per MBF is added back to the base stumpage price for harvest cuts. During the period 1975 to 1984, BD collections averaged $3.83 per MBF.

In the Nez Perce Forest Plan, three different logging methods are analyzed. By substituting the assumed yarding distance for each logging method into the model, the relative cost applicable to each method can be calculated. The calculations are shown in Table D-3.

Table D-3
Comparison of Logging Methods, Nez Perce National Forest

Logging Method Tractor	Yarding Distance	Comparative Costs per MBF	Change From Tractor $
Tractor	700'	-4.73	0.00
Skyline	1500'	-34.93	-30.20
Aerial	NA	-90.67	-85.94

Helicopter sales were not included when developing the recent transaction-evidence regression models. A helicopter equation was developed from 18 sales sold in the Region from 1972 to 1979. This equation is:

$$Y = -246.89 + 0.5511 \text{ SPLT} + 46.37 \text{ LOG (DBH)}$$

Where:

Y = high bid price per MBF (1978 dollars)

Substituting the 10-year average values for SPLT and DBH the predicted stumpage price for helicopter logging is:

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= -246.89 + 0.5511\ (187.17) + 46.37 \text{ LOG } (14.30) \\ &= -246.89 + 103.15 + 123.36 \\ &= -\$20.38 \text{ per MBF} \end{aligned}$$

Helicopter logging only pays if you have both large diameter trees and high lumber prices. The average stumpage price for tractor-logged timber under the same circumstances is $65.56 per MBF. No adjustment is made to prices predicted by the helicopter equation.

The average base stumpage values and projections that apply to both the original and updated data are shown in Table D-4. Note that the average base stumpage price (1980 value) did not change significantly as a result of the revision; however, the price projections from the draft 1985 RPA program (i.e., future prices) are substantially lower than those used originally.

Table D-4
Average Stumpage Prices, Original verses Revised
(1978 dollars per MBF)

		Planned	Projected			
	1980 Base Value	1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Original	59.44	$73.99	$97.88	$129.88	$180.14	$231.27
Revised	60.35	60.35	63.96	74.40	89.19	109.95
Percent Change	+2	-18	-35	-43	-50	-52

Revised Recreation/Wildlife Values from the Draft 1985 RPA

The wildlife and recreation values used in the original analysis were based on the 1980 RPA program; the updated wildlife and recreation values used in this sensitivity analysis are based on a combination of the 1985 RPA Program values and Idaho specific values for big-game hunting and anadromous sport fishing. These values are shown in Table D-5.

The Idaho specific values are from a recently completed study done by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. (Donnelly, Dennis; John B. Loomis, Cindy Sorg, and Louis Nelson. "Net Economic Values of Recreational Steelhead Fishing in Idaho," Resource Bulletin RM-9, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. 1985. Sorg, Cindy; Louis Nelson. "Net Economic Value of Elk Hunting in Idaho," Resource Bulletin RM-12, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. 1985.)

Table D-5
Wildlife and Recreation Values, Original verses Revised
(1978 dollars per unit)

Outputs		Planned	Projected			
		1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Dispersed Recreation (RVDs)	Original	$4.45	$4.67	$5.30	$5.92	$6.68
	Revised	8.10	8.75	9.45	10.20	11.02
Wilderness (RVDs)	Original	8.00	8.00	9.12	9.84	11.20
	Revised	11.00	11.88	12.83	13.86	14.97
Elk Hunting (WFUD)	Original	21.00	22.05	24.99	27.93	31.50
	Revised	35.27	38.04	41.14	44.43	47.98
Anadromous Sport Fishing (WFUD)	Original	19.50	20.48	23.21	25.94	29.25
	Revised	21.16	23.28	25.15	27.16	29.33
Commercial Sport Fish (Pounds)	Original	1.61	1.69	1.92	2.14	2.42
	Revised	1.61	1.69	1.92	2.14	2.42

B. Revised Timber Base Price and Projections

1. Preferred Alternative

The first step in the analysis was to look at the Preferred Alternative (Alternative G) to see what effect different assumptions would have on the FORPLAN solution. Each variation and result is discussed below:

Run P1A

Purpose:

Evaluate the effects of using revised timber values.

Specifications:

- Revised timber values;
- Original real price increases for timber.

Results:

The first variation used the revised timber values with the original real price increases. Although the average base stumpage price did not change significantly, the values associated with the type of logging systems did change. For tractor logging (which is used extensively in the early decades), stumpage values were reduced significantly between the original and revised prices. This resulted in a 27-percent reduction in present net value. The present value of the timber benefits decreased by 29 percent. There was a slight increase in the first decade ASQ and the long-term sustained yield capacity (LTSYC). See Table D-6.

Table D-6
Preferred Alternative Modified to Evaluate REVISED BASE TIMBER VALUES for the period 1975-84, with ORIGINAL REAL PRICE INCREASES.

		Average Annual Units				
	Run ID	1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Allowable Sale Quantity (MMBF)	G1U[a]	(102)	(139)	(196)	(206)	(206)
	P1A	105	137	205	205	205
Long-Term Sustained Yield Capacity (MMBF)	G1U	(206)	-	-	-	-
	P1A	205	-	-	-	-
Suitable Acres	G1U	(889,157)	-	-	-	-
	P1A	889,157	-	-	-	-
Present Net Value (Million Dollars)	G1U	(975)	-	-	-	-
	P1A	713	-	-	-	-
Discounted Values (Million Dollars)						
- Timber	G1U	(939)	-	-	-	-
	P1A	670	-	-	-	-
- Recreation & Wildlife	G1U	(388)	-	-	-	-
	P1A	388	-	-	-	-

a/ G1U was the Preferred Alternative in the Draft EIS.

Run P2A

Purpose:

Evaluate the significance of revised timber values with no real price increases.

Specifications:

- Revised base timber values;
- No real price increases for timber.

Results:

The most significant effect was that the present value of the timber benefits decreased by 72 percent; from $939 million to $261 million. This caused the acres suitable for timber management to decrease by 42,673 acres (5 percent), and the timber harvest levels and the LTSYC to decrease slightly (see Table D-7).

Table D-7
Preferred Alternative Modified to Evaluate REVISED BASE TIMBER VALUES for the period 1975-84; REAL PRICE INCREASES HAVE BEEN DELETED.

	Run ID	Average Annual Units				
		1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Allowable Sale Quantity (MMBF)	G1U[a]	(102)	(139)	(196)	(206)	(206)
	P2A	100	133	196	196	196
Long Term Sustained Yield Capacity (MMBF)	G1U	(206)	-	-	-	-
	P2A	196	-	-	-	-
Suitable Acres	G1U	(889,157)	-	-	-	-
	P2A	846,484	-	-	-	-
Present Net Value (Million Dollars)	G1U	(975)				
	P2A	356				
Discounted Values (Million Dollars)						
- Timber	G1U	(939)	-	-	-	-
	P2A	261	-	-	-	-
- Recreation & Wildlife	G1U	(388)	-	-	-	-
	P2A	388	-	-	-	-

a/ G1U was the Preferred Alternative in the Draft EIS.

Run P3A

Purpose:

Evaluate the combined effects of the revised base timber values and draft 1985 RPA real price increases.

Specifications:

- Revised timber values;
- Draft 1985 RPA real price increases.

Results:

As shown in Table D-8, the most significant change in this run is that the present value of the timber benefits decreased by 61 percent. This slightly reduced the timber harvest level and the LTSYC, and slightly decreased the suitable acres (i.e., a 2.5 percent decrease). Other key outputs also showed a small decrease.

Table D-8
Preferred Alternative Modified to Evaluate REVISED BASE TIMBER VALUES for the period 1975-84 with DRAFT 1985 RPA REAL PRICE INCREASES.

	Run ID	Average Annual Units				
		1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Allowable Sale Quantity (MMBF)	G1U[a]	(102)	(139)	(196)	(206)	(206)
	P3A	102	132	195	200	200
Long-Term Sustained Yield Capacity (MMBF)	G1U	(206)	-	-	-	-
	P3A	200	-	-	-	-
Suitable Acres	G1U	(889,157)	-	-	-	-
	P3A	866,776	-	-	-	-
Present Net Value (Million Dollars)	G1U	(975)				
	P3A	433				
Discounted Values (Million Dollars)						
- Timber	G1U	(939)	-	-	-	-
	P3A	363	-	-	-	-
- Recreation & Wildlife	G1U	(388)	-	-	-	-
	P3A	388	-	-	-	-

a/ G1U was the Preferred Alternative in the Draft EIS.

Due to a decrease in PNV, an additional 23,000 acres in productivity class 4 were sent to a minimum level (unsuitable) prescription. These acres represent nonstocked or understocked plantations that received either a backlog or maintenance reforestation prescription in run G1U (see Table D-9).

The acres of timber harvest on deer/elk winter range increased by approximately 1,000 acres (7.5 percent) in the first decade. These prescriptions provide extended periods of regeneration (20 years) to provide prolonged periods of browse and forage production for deer and elk.

There were no other major changes in land assignment or scheduling as a result of using the revised base timber values and draft 1985 RPA real price increases.

Table D-9
Minimum Level Assignments by Productivity Class.
(Thousand Acres)

Run ID	Productivity Class				
	3	4	5/6	7	8
G1U (Preferred Alternative)	91.7	26.4	4.6	40.7	30.3
P3A	92.5	49.4	4.6	40.7	29.8
Difference	.8	23.0[a]	0	0	.5
Percent Change	+.8	+87.0	0	0	+1.6

a/ All of these acres are in need of backlog reforestation.

2. Maximum Present Net Value (PNV) Benchmark (Run 06D)

Since the Maximum PNV benchmark is the benchmark to which all alternatives are compared, additional analysis was conducted to evaluate the effects of updated timber values and real price increases on this benchmark.

Run P5B

Purpose:

Evaluate the effects of using the revised base timber values and the draft 1985 RPA real price increases in the Maximum PNV benchmark.

Specifications:

- Revised base timber values;
- Draft 1985 RPA real price increases.

Results:

The present value of the timber benefits decreased by 62 percent. The resulting decrease in timber's contribution to PNV caused the timber harvest level to decrease slightly as well as a slight decrease in the LTSYC. Also, the acres suitable for timber management decreased by 21,853 acres, a 2 percent decrease (see Table D-10).

Table D-10
Max PNV Benchmark (06D) Modified to Evaluate the 1975-1984 TIMBER VALUES and the 1985 RPA REAL PRICE INCREASES.

	Run ID	Average Annual Units				
		1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Allowable Sale Quantity (MMBF)	06D	(196)	(243)	(243)	(243)	(243)
	P5B	189	237	237	237	237
Long-Term Sustained Yield Capacity (MMBF)	06D	(243)	-	-	-	-
	P5B	237	-	-	-	-
Suitable Acres	06D	(1,056,136)	-	-	-	-
	P5B	1,034,283	-	-	-	-
Present Net Value (Million Dollars)	06D	(1,119)	-	-	-	-
	P5B	421	-	-	-	-
Discounted Values (Million Dollars)						
- Timber	06D	(1,586)	-	-	-	-
	P5B	476	-	-	-	-
- Recreation & Wildlife	06D	(352)	-	-	-	-
	P5B	349	-	-	-	-

Due to a decrease in PNV, an additional 21,000 acres in productivity class 4 were sent to a minimum level (unsuitable) prescription. These acres represent *nonstocked or understocked plantations that received either a backlog or* maintenance reforestation prescription in run 06D (see Table D-11).

One of the more significant changes was the acres assigned to prescriptions involving timber harvesting on deer/elk winter range. These prescriptions provide extended periods of regeneration (20 years) to provide prolonged periods of browse and forage production for deer and elk. This increase in harvesting on deer/elk winter range is because, at the margin, the increase in PNV due to increased harvesting on deer/elk winter range is greater than the loss in PNV due to the extended periods of regeneration. In the Max PNV benchmark (06D) 77,662 acres were assigned to winter range. In run P5B, with updated timber values and real price increases, 96,059 acres were assigned to winter range, an increase of 18,387 acres or 24 percent. In both of these runs, deer/elk winter range was not "hardwired" and the model had a choice of timber, minimum level, or deer/elk winter range prescriptions in the appropriate analysis areas.

Table D-11
Minimum Level Assignment by Productivity Class Using Revised Base Timber Values and Draft 1985 RPA Real Price Increases

Run ID	Productivity Class				
	3	4	5/6	7	8
06D (Max PNV Benchmark)	9.2	8.6	0	47	29.3
P5A	10.0	29.6	0	47	29.8
Difference	.8	21.0[a]	0	0	.5
Percent Change	8.7	40.0	0	0	1.7

a/ All of these acres are in need of backlog reforestation.

3. *Maximum Commodity Alternative (Alternative D)*

Alternative D is the maximum-level timber alternative, and the most unconstrained. This alternative has the most freedom to choose prescription/ analysis area combinations to maximize the objective function: present net value.

The results of this run are similar to previous runs: a significant decrease in the present value of the timber benefits and slight decreases in the timber harvest level, the LTSYC, and the acres scheduled for timber harvest (see Table D-12).

Again, the major change in land assignment is an additional 21,000 acres of nonstocked or poorly stocked plantations in productivity class 4 being sent to a minimum level prescription.

There was also an increase in the acres assigned to deer/elk winter range; from 81,669 acres in D1B to 95,153 acres in run P6A, an increase of 17 percent.

Table D-12
Alternative D (D1B) Modified to Evaluate the 1975-1984 TIMBER VALUES, and the Draft 1985 RPA REAL PRICE INCREASES.

	Run ID	Average Annual Units				
		1988-1997	1998-2007	2008-2017	2018-2027	2028-2037
Allowable Sale Quantity (MMBF)	D1B	(157)	(198)	(242)	(242)	(242)
	P6B	151	193	242	242	242
Long-Term Sustained Yield Capacity (MMBF)	D1B	(242)	-	-	-	-
	P6B	242	-	-	-	-
Suitable Acres	D1B	(1,056,136)	-	-	-	-
	P6B	1,034,283	-	-	-	-
Present Net Value (Million Dollars)	D1B	(1,113)	-	-	-	-
	P6B	421	-	-	-	-
Discounted Values (Million Dollars)						
- Timber	D1B	(1,158)	-	-	-	-
	P6B	451	-	-	-	-
- Recreation & Wildlife	D1B	(362)	-	-	-	-
	P6B	363	-	-	-	-

C. Additional Analysis on the Preferred Alternative

Further sensitivity analysis was done on the Preferred Alternative to address concerns relating to how this alternative was modeled in FORPLAN. This analysis was done to determine the effect on land assignments and outputs by changing timing choices beyond decade 15, relaxing some timber constraints, and incorporating road construction costs within FORPLAN. The revised timber values and projections were also used for this analysis.

The first sensitivity run (W1A) modified the timber prescription timing choices to prevent the harvest of existing stands beyond decade 15. All prescription and scheduled output constraints used in the model were left as is.

The result of this run shows little change in suitable timberland, LTSYC, or in allowable sale quantity (ASQ). The small decline in suitable acres was due to a switch in the assignment of roaded backlog areas from a reforestation to a minimum management prescription.

The second sensitivity run (W3A) was built upon the changes in the first run. It was felt that some timber prescription constraints were applied in an economically inefficient manner. To give the FORPLAN model more choice in determining the acres that are suitable for timber management, the following changes were made for this run:

- Deer/elk winter range timber prescription constraints were changed from "equal to" to "less than or equal to."

- All constraints on the number of acres that would go to a minimum level management prescription were changed from "equal to" to "greater than or equal to."

- Visual timber and existing old growth (timber) prescription constraints were lifted from acres in the lower valued land type 61 and productivity classes 5 and 6.

- Ceilings were placed on the maximum number of acres that could be harvested per period from the most difficult land types and productivity classes.

The result of these changes shows little difference in suitable timber acres or in acres assigned to winter range timber prescriptions. The timber harvest level for the first 4 decades shows little change. The LTSYC is 6 percent less than in the Preferred Alternative.

The third sensitivity run (W5A) was built upon the changes from the last run. This run addresses the concern over how road construction costs were adjusted outside the FORPLAN model. In the Preferred Alternative model, road miles that are built and construction costs per period that are incurred are directly proportional to acres harvested. This results in an underestimation of total road costs in the early periods and an overestimation in later periods. For this run, road construction costs are modeled as a scheduled output. In the scheduled output tables, development costs were spread out over time based on the correct road assumptions, which should be considered in the assignment of lands for timber production. The cumulative road mile output (Schedule Output 9) tables in FORPLAN were also modified to reflect the actual road miles that would be constructed per period.

The results of this run show that the harvest volume does not change significantly from the Preferred Alternative in the first 4 decades. The LTSYC declines approximately 12 percent, as does the total suitable acres for timber harvest. This decline is primarily from the less productive, lower valued land types. The majority of acres switch from suitable to unsuitable from lands which are classified as roadless.

Tables D-13, D-14, and D-15 display the Allowable Sale Quantity, LTSYC, and timber acres assigned for the Preferred Alternative and the sensitivity runs.

Table D-13
Allowable Sale Quantity and LTSYC (MMBF) Planned in Decade 1, Projected in Later Decades

Decades	FORPLAN Runs			
	G1X (Pref.Alt.)	W1A	W3A	W5A
1	102.0	102.7	102.4	101.5
2	122.0	123.2	122.8	121.8
3	147.0	147.8	147.4	146.2
4	176.0	177.4	176.9	175.5
5	206.0	200.3	193.9	179.9
LTSY	206.0	200.3	193.9	179.9

Table D-14
Timber Acres Assigned by Land Class and Working Group for Each Run

	FORPLAN Runs			
	G1X (Pref.Alt.)	W1A[1]	W3A[1]	W5A[1]
Land Class-22				
PC-3	115,199	115,199(0)	115,200 (0)	115,199(0)
PC-4	133,649	125,049(-6%)	125,050(-6%)	124,756(-7%)
PC-5&6	71,252	65,714(-8%)	61,089(-14%)	51,036(-28%)
TOTAL	314,662	305,962(-3%)	301,339(-4%)	290,991(-7%)
Land Class-32				
PC-3	71,252	71,252(0)	71,253(0)	69,957(-2%)
PC-4	172,391	162,272(-6%)	162,272(-6%)	151,566(-12%)
PC-5&6	137,705	137,700(-0)	130,582(-5%)	104,111(-24%)
TOTAL	381,348	371,224(-3%)	364,107(-4%)	325,634(-15%)
Land Class-61				
PC-3	78,759	76,393(-3%)	73,364(-7%)	71,047(-10%)
PC-4	63,065	60,359(-4%)	60,911(-3%)	53,549(-15%)
PC-5&6	51,314	51,316(0)	41,009(-20%)	40,471(-21%)
TOTAL	193,138	188,068(-3%)	177,284(-8%)	165,067(-14%)
Forestwide Total	889,048	865,254(-3%)	842,730(-5%)	781,692(12%)

1/ Numbers in parentheses are the percentage differences in acres assigned between the sensitivity runs and G1X.

Table D-15
Suitable Timber Acres in Thousands for Roaded vs. Roadless

	FORPLAN Runs			
	G1X	W1A	W3A	W5A
Roaded	285.017	263.160	262.922	263.179
Roadless	604.031	502.094	579.808	518.513

D. Revised Values for Wildlife and Recreation Opportunities

When revised wildlife and recreation values are used, the present value of the wildlife and recreation benefits increases by 10 percent. Analysis area (land) assignments based on management prescriptions do not change significantly using the revised values because the FORPLAN model is already constrained to achieve desired levels of wildlife and recreation outputs as established by the overall objectives of Alternative G. Also, there was a demand ceiling placed on the recreational outputs (RVDs) so that there is a limit on the number of RVDs that can be valued in a given decade.

III. Timber Supply/Demand and Timber Resource Land Suitability

After the release of the Draft EIS to the public, concerns by the timber industry were raised over the timber supply and what impact changes in demand for timber would have on the Preferred Alternative. New information related to this concern became available from "A Report on Idaho's Timber Supply". In addition to the above concern, public review comments on the Draft EIS asked why lands in the suitable timber base were at the level stated in the Preferred Alternative. The timber industry and others asked about possible opportunities for increasing the allowable sale quantity (ASQ) in the Preferred Alternative if demand (price) for wood were to dramatically increase. Further analysis was done to incorporate the information from the Idaho Timber Supply Study and to respond to the public comments with additional information on the Preferred Alternative.

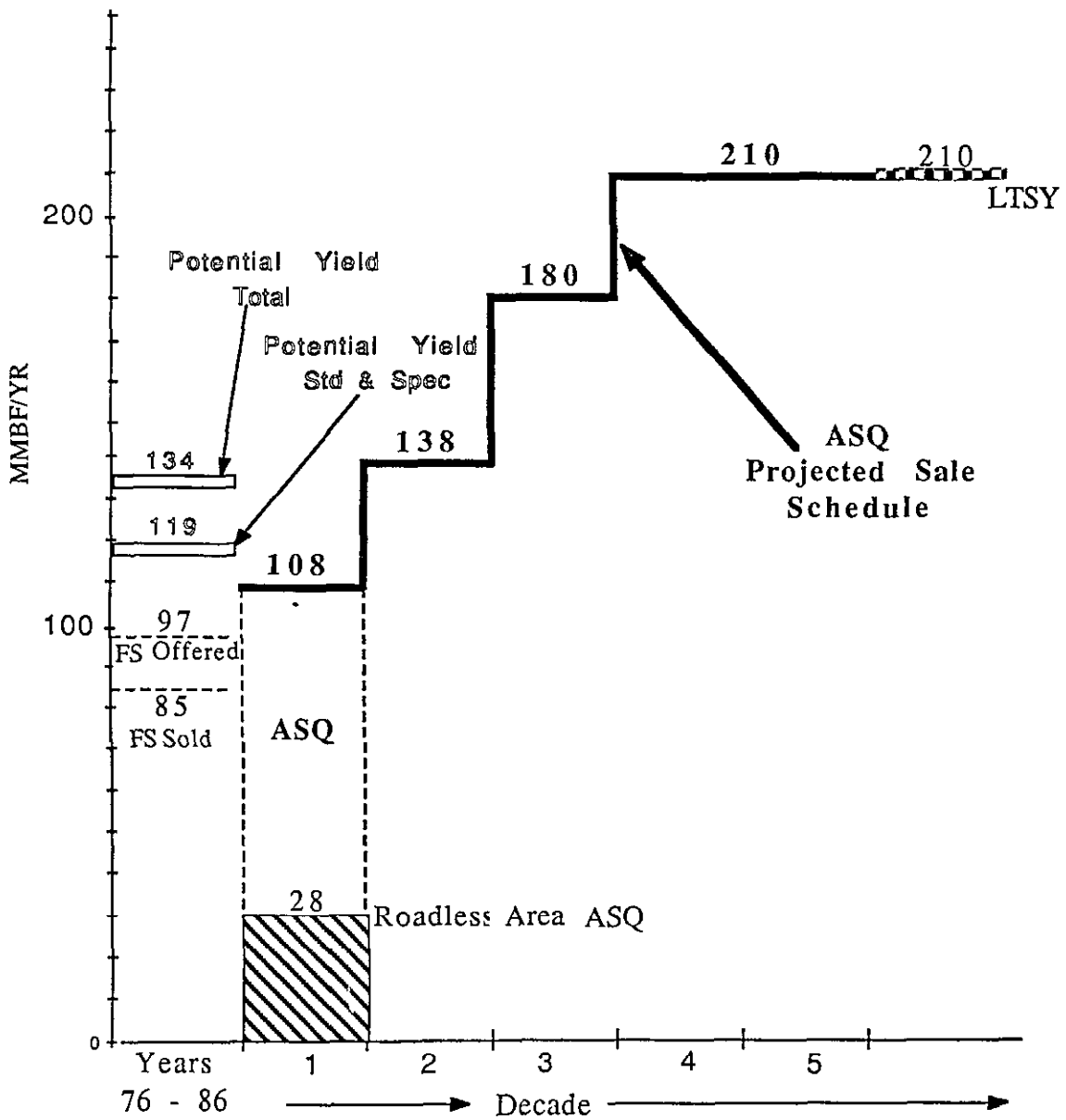
Timber Supply/Demand

A timber supply study (A Report on Idaho's Timber Supply) was completed in February 1987 to examine supply scenarios, by ownership, from 1985 through the year 2030. Findings for Northern Idaho indicate that the timber supply is adequate to maintain and even increase timber harvest levels above the historic annual median harvest level of 1.336 billion board feet (1975-1984) for the next 10 years. This is based on the planned harvest levels under the Preferred Alternatives in the Draft EISs for the three northern Idaho National Forests (Idaho Panhandle, Clearwater, and Nez Perce) in conjunction with the continuation of the historic harvest levels from other ownerships. Depending upon corporate objectives and policies, the harvest levels for private industrial lands may begin to decline during this period due to a shortage of

timber inventory volume on these lands. Other ownership (BLM, State, BIA, and private, non-industrial) harvest levels and National Forest Preferred Alternative harvest levels have sufficient timber inventory volumes to collectively offset this estimated future decline from private industrial lands to maintain the 1.336 billion board feet of historic annual harvest through the year 2030.

National Forest timber volume in Northern Idaho was expected to be 502 million board feet annually for the first decade, and would increase to 909 million board feet annually by 2030. The historic average timber volume, and the harvest levels for the Plan period and the projected four decades are displayed in Figure D-1.

Figure D-1
Historic and Projected Timber Volume from Nez Perce National Forest lands.
(MMBF)



The increase in potential demand for Nez Perce National Forest timber is a result of both increasing demand for stumpage and decreasing supply from private industrial lands. This would reflect the decline in harvest levels on industrial lands due to inventory depletion.

Due to concerns from the Idaho Congressional delegation, the timber industry, and other publics over the need for more available timber, this Forest performed additional analysis to identify more suitable acres and a higher harvest level. This analysis resulted in identifying 11,000 acres in the Rackliff-Gedney Roadless area which will be available for harvest. The average annual allowable sale quantity was increased from 102 MMBF to 108 MMBF. One MMBF is the result of an increase in suitable acres from Rackliff-Gedney and 5 MMBF comes from a non-interchangeable component. This non-interchangeable component is made up of live and salvageable dead material that can be utilized for pulp, lumber, and other merchantable products.

Figure D-1 displays the ASQ and the projected sale schedule for the Nez Perce National Forest. The supply of timber in the first five decades of the planning horizon is approximately within the range of potential demand projections. For the Plan period, the allowable sale quantity (ASQ) is 11 percent, or 11 MMBF per year above the timber volume historically offered. It is slightly above the upper level of demand projections for this period. Approximately 27 percent of the planned ASQ volume comes from current roadless areas.

Timber Resource Suitability

Additional analysis was done on the amount of suitable acres in the Preferred Alternative. The results of this analysis are displayed in Table D-16, Timber Resource Land Suitability Table. Table D-17 provides the definition for the terminology used in Table D-16. Tentatively suitable acres are identified in Appendix B, Section II. Table D-16 further classifies the tentatively suitable lands into "suitable" and "tentatively not appropriate".

Table D-16
Timber Resource Land Suitability

		ACRES	EFFECTS		
			1st Decade		LTSY
			Acres	MMBF	MMBF
FORESTED and NON FORESTED	**NOT SUITED**				
	Not Capable & Non Forest	245,323			
	Irreversible Soil and Watershed Damage	0			
	No Assurance of Adequate Restocking	78,906			
	Withdrawn from Timber Production	823,397			
	Subtotal of Above	1,147,626			
	SUITABLE				
TENTATIVELY SUITABLE	* LANDS COST EFFICIENT				
	Direct Benefits Exceed Direct Costs	813,986	4,390	104.7	-
	Direct Costs Exceed Direct Benefits				
	Meet Non Timber M.U. Objective	22,524	150	3.3	-
	Local Jobs/Income	75,159		0	-
	Subtotal of Above	911,669	4,540	108	210
TENTATIVELY NOT SUITED			RESOURCE OPPORTUNITY		
			1st Decade		LTSY
			Acres	MMBF	MMBF
	Lands Not Cost Efficient to Meet Objectives- Future Timber Production Possible	60,851	10	2	15
	Multiple-Use Objectives Preclude Timber Production				
	Other Uses	97,894	-	-	-
	Proposed Wilderness	0	-	-	-
	Subtotal of Above	158,745	10	2	15
	TOTAL NATIONAL FOREST LANDS	2,218,040			

Definitions:
(See Attached Sheet Figure 1)

Note:
* Volume figures include:
~ Chargeable Volume Only
~ Non-Interchangeable Components to meet management objectives

Effective Period: from 1987 thru 1996

Table D-17
Timber Resource Land Suitability Definitions

NOT SUITED LANDS	
Not Capable	Forest land not capable of producing industrial wood Quantitatively defined as lands not capable of producing 20 cubic feet of wood per acre per year
Non-Forest	Land that is not at least 10 percent occupied by forest trees of any size or formerly having had such tree cover and currently developed for non-forest use 36 CFR 219 14(a)(1)
Irreversible Soil & Watershed Damage	36 CFR 219 14(a)(2)
No Assurance of Adequate Restocking	36 CFR 219 14(a)(3)
Withdrawn from Timber Production	36 CFR 219 14(a)(4)
TENTATIVELY SUITABLE LANDS	
SUITABLE PORTION	
Direct Benefits Exceed Direct Costs	Direct benefits expressed as expected gross receipts to the government Expected receipts are based upon expected stumpage prices and payments-in-kind from timber harvest considering future supply and demand situation for timber and upon timber production goals of the Regional Guide 36 CFR 219 14(b)(1). Direct costs include the anticipated investments, maintenance, operating, management, and planning costs attributable to timber production activities, including mitigation measures necessitated by the impacts of timber production 36 CFR 219 14(b)(2)
Meet Non-timber, Multiple-Use Objectives	Lands where timber production is necessary to achieve non-timber, multiple-use objectives even though direct timber production costs exceed expected gross receipts to the government These objectives are not assigned monetary values but are achieved at specified levels in the least cost manner. See 36 CFR 219 14(c) and 36 CFR 219.3 (definition of cost efficiency)
Local Jobs/Income	Lands necessary for timber production in order to maintain an appropriate level of local employment and income. (No direct basis in the planning regulations, See 36 CFR 221 3(a)(3)
Non-Interchangeable Component	Non-Interchangeable Components (NICS) are defined increments of the suitable land base and their contribution to the allowable sale quantity (ASQ) that are established to meet Forest plan objectives NICS are identified as parcels of land and the type of timber thereon which are differentiated for the purpose of Forest plan implementation. The total ASQ is derived from the sum of the timber volumes from all NICS. The NICS cannot be substituted for each other in the timber sale program Some conditions which may characterize a particular NIC are (1) species marketability, (2) dead or live timber, (3) timber size class, and (4) operability
NOT SUITED PORTION	
Lands Not Cost Efficient to Meet Objectives-Future Timber Production Possible	Lands not currently cost efficient for timber production but which could be brought into production if conditions change These lands represent additional opportunities within the preferred alternative
Multiple-Use Objectives Preclude Timber Production	Based upon a consideration of multiple-use objectives for the aternative, the land is proposed for resource uses that preclude timber production. 36 CFR 219 14(c)(1)

The "suitable" category can be classified as cost efficient lands. These cost-efficient lands are broken down into four sub-categories: (1) direct benefits exceed direct costs; (2) direct costs exceed direct benefits; (3) meet multiple use objectives; and (4) local jobs and income. "Direct Benefits Exceed Direct Costs" represents those acres and volumes with a positive present net value over the planning horizon. On the Nez Perce National Forest, this represents 89 percent of the total suitable acres, and almost 100 percent of the acres harvested, with a volume of 108 MMBF during the Plan period. The remaining sub-categories make up 11 percent of the total suitable base and less than 1 percent of acres harvested in the Plan period. To meet multiple use objectives such as big-game winter range, it is necessary to schedule 154 acres and 3.3 MMBF of average annual harvest in the first decade on lands where direct costs exceed direct benefits. Although no timber harvest is scheduled in the first decade on lands identified as necessary to maintain jobs and income, 17.3 MMBF will be scheduled on these lands in future decades. This harvest is necessary to meet the objectives for jobs and income in the future.

Under the "Tentatively Not Appropriate" category, there are two subcategories: (1) Lands Not Cost Efficient to Meet Objectives -- Future Timber Production Possible, and (2) Preclude Timber Production -- Other Uses and Wilderness. For the subcategory of "Lands Not Cost Efficient", 60,851 acres within the East Meadow Creek Roadless area were identified as opportunity lands for future timber production. For the Plan period, approximately 100 acres were identified within these opportunity acres for timber production with approximately 2 MMBF harvested. While these acres have been identified as an opportunity to increase timber production, no change is proposed for the Preferred Alternative because of several factors which make these lands not cost efficient. These factors are: (1) current market conditions, haul distances to mills, and logging technology make potential timber sales infeasible, (2) need for a more site specific evaluation of the resource impacts to fish/water quality associated with road construction and logging, and (3) high cost of road construction for some of these opportunity lands. Any substantial change in the economic factors would be identified through the monitoring process. If information utilizing improved data, research findings from the adjacent Horse Creek study area, and the R-1/R-4 sediment prediction model indicates no significant impacts to fish/water quality, this would also be identified through monitoring. Given the results of the monitoring process on these opportunity acres, it would require an amendment to the Forest Plan and public involvement in order to allow these acres to be harvested.

Figure D-2 shows a comparison of the commercial National Forest land classification used in previous Forest timber management plans with the Forest Plan Preferred Alternative land suitability classification.

CURRENT AND PREVIOUS CLASSIFICATION OF NEZPERCE NATIONAL FOREST LANDS

FOREST PLAN TIMBER RESOURCE LAND SUITABILITY
Total Acres: 2,218,040

PREVIOUS COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND CLASSIFICATION
Total Acres: 2,206,521

Figure D-2
Comparison of land suitability classification

IV. CONCLUSIONS FROM THE ANALYSIS

A. Revised Timber Values and Draft 1985 RPA Real Price Projections

By comparing the FORPLAN runs using the original and revised timber values and real price projections for the Maximum PNV benchmark, Alternative D, and Alternative G (Preferred Alternative), a significant change in present net value resulted. With revised timber values and real price projections, the contribution of timber to present net value declines significantly. In fact, wildlife/recreation outputs contribute more to present net value than timber when these values and projections are used.

The assignment of lands to different management prescriptions within the FORPLAN model is less significant. There are several reasons for this when the prescription/analysis area combinations for the original timber values and real price projections are compared with the revised timber base values and projections. The reasons are discussed below.

- The present net value of timber prescriptions for the Maximum PNV benchmark and Alternatives D and G is reduced by approximately 60 percent using the revised values, but most of the prescriptions are still positive.

- Analysis areas which represent low-valued timberland (nonstocked or understocked) were originally assigned maintenance reforestation prescriptions. Using the revised values, these areas were assigned to minimum level prescriptions resulting in a shift from positive PNV per acre to negative PNV per acre. This shift in land assignments from suitable to unsuitable timberland is relatively small (approximately a 2 percent change).

- Those prescription/analysis area combinations which originally had a negative PNV per acre either did not change or had a greater negative net value. This is particularly evident for the deer/elk winter range prescription which has timber harvesting activities associated with it.

B. Additional Analysis on the Preferred Alternative

The additional sensitivity analysis on the modeling aspects of the Preferred Alternative did not show a significant change in land assignments or in the Allowable Sale Quantity for the first 4 decades. The inclusion of road costs into the FORPLAN model did cause a shift of approximately 80,000 acres of suitable to nonsuitable timberlands. It was recognized that these lands are of marginal productivity and were included in the suitable landbase in order to meet the overall objectives of the alternative. This analysis tends to support the economic rational of most of the constraints used to model the Preferred Alternative. This is particularly evident in Chapter II of the EIS, Section 19, which discusses the tradeoffs between priced outputs (i.e. timber) versus nonpriced outputs (i.e. fish/water quality).

C. Revised Wildlife/Recreation Values

The use of the revised wildlife/recreation values increases the contribution of these outputs to present net value by 10 percent. The impact of using these values on land assignments in the alternatives analyzed was not significant because of the way the production of desired levels of many nonmarket outputs was insured.

Certain resource benefits (timber, dispersed recreation, wildlife [elk], and range) determine, in part, land assignments and scheduling of management prescriptions in the FORPLAN model. These resources were used because their production could be linked to the analysis area/management prescription format. The production of other resource outputs was achieved through the use of constraints determined by the objectives of each alternative. Management prescriptions designed to produce desired levels of nonpriced outputs, including deer/elk winter range, retention of old-growth timber, fish/water quality, and visual quality objectives, are directly assigned to specific analysis areas. Once these prescriptions are assigned, the production of priced nonmarket outputs such as anadromous fishing recreation are calculated and valued outside of the model. This value is added to determine the total PNV for the alternative or benchmark.

The total quantity of wildlife recreation outputs valued was dependent on projected demand levels. Levels of recreation opportunity provided in excess of the projected demand were not valued since such a surplus would not be utilized by recreationists. For example, Alternative G has a high level of fish/water quality for the Forest as an objective. FORPLAN management prescriptions are assigned to specific drainages to minimize sedimentation and to enhance fish habitat so that the objective can be met. Once this objective is achieved, numbers for pounds of anadromous fish and associated recreational activities (RVDs) can be estimated and valued for this alternative. The discounted value is added to the PNV calculated by FORPLAN to give a total PNV for that alternative. The total quantity of wildlife recreation outputs valued is limited by the projected demand ceiling.

As a result, the use of revised per unit values increases the total value for recreation/wildlife resources, but does not significantly change the analysis area (land) assignments. Derived levels of the recreation/wildlife outputs are achieved because the management prescriptions are constrained to achieve nonpriced output levels established by objectives of the alternatives.

D. Timber Supply/Demand and Timber Resource Land Suitability

Based on the information in this Appendix, and in Section 9 of Chapter II in the Final EIS, the Preferred Alternative should be able to provide enough timber volume to meet the projected range of demand for timber. This conclusion was based on information from the Idaho Timber Supply Study (A Report on Idaho's Timber Supply) and the supply and demand analysis for the Nez Perce National Forest covered in Chapter II.

The analysis on timber resource land suitability for the Preferred Alternative provided additional information on the classification of suitable and unsuitable acres and identified any additional acres which could be harvested.