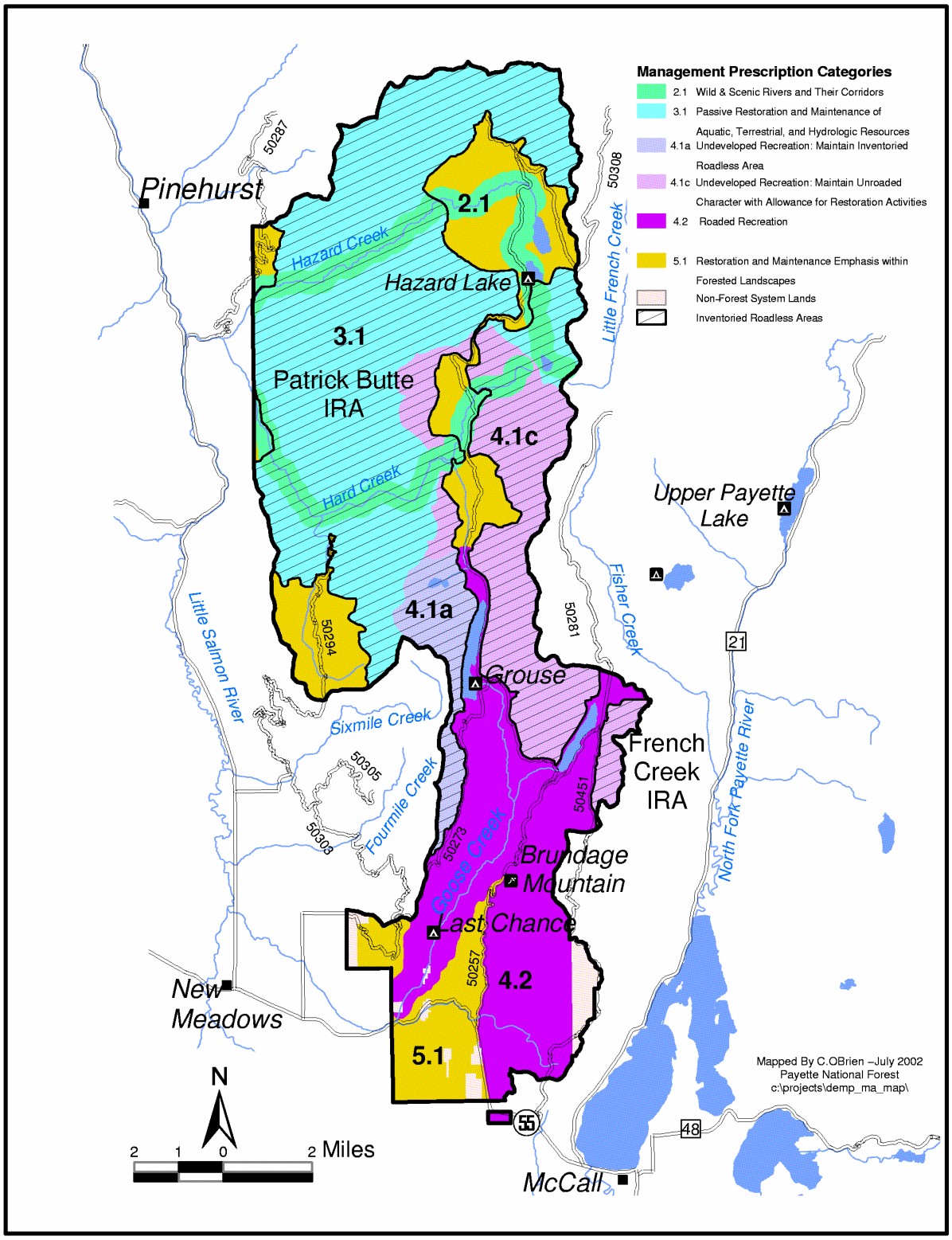
Management Area 06 –Goose Creek/Hazard Creek –Location Map



Management Area 6
Goose Creek/Hazard Creek

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 6 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
3.1 – Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial & Hydrologic Resources	41
4.1a - Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Inventoried Roadless Areas	4
4.1c – Undeveloped Rec.: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration	15
4.2 – Roaded Recreation Emphasis	20
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	20

General Location and Description - Management Area 6 is comprised of land administered by the Payette National Forest within the Goose Creek, Hazard Creek, and Upper Little Salmon River Watersheds of the Little Salmon River drainage (see map, preceding page). The area lies in Adams, Valley, and Idaho Counties, north of New Meadows and McCall, and is part of the New Meadows and McCall Ranger Districts. The management area is an estimated 78,800 acres, which includes several small private and state inholdings that make up less than 2 percent of the area. The area is bordered by Payette National Forest to the north and northeast, State land to the southeast, private land to the south, and a mix of private, BLM, and State lands to the west.

Access - The main access to the area is from the south via paved State Highway 55 between McCall and New Meadows, Idaho, and paved and gravel-surfaced Forest Road 257 from Highway 55 to Hazard Lake. Other access routes from U.S. Highway 95 include the native-surfaced Brown Creek Road (Forest Road 294) and Hazard-Tepee Road (Forest Road 287). The density of classified roads for the entire area is an estimated 0.8 mile per square mile. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0.4 and 7.1 miles per square mile. Most of the roads occur in the Goose Creek Watershed at the southern end of the management area. A network of trails provides access to portions of the roadless areas in the north. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been developed and dispersed recreation, special uses, timber management, and livestock grazing.

The Forest has a cost-share agreement with Boise Corporation for building and maintaining a cooperative road system in which all costs and responsibilities are shared. Boise Cascade lands are in or adjacent to the Brown Creek portion of the Lower Hard Creek Subwatershed.

Special Features – State Highway 55 has been designated as a state and federal scenic byway. The Brundage Mountain Resort is a year-round resort that draws over 100,000 visitors a year to the area. Little Ski Hill provides winter sports opportunities. Goose Lake, Brundage Reservoir, and Hazard Lake are popular fishing and camping areas. Maintained trails lead to Goose Creek

Falls, Granite Mountain Fire Lookout, and many of the high alpine lakes. The Forest has recently expanded and improved Last Chance and Grouse Campgrounds. An estimated 59 percent of the management area is inventoried as roadless, including a large portion of the Patrick Butte Roadless Area, and a small portion of the French Creek Roadless Area.

Two eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers fall within this management area, Hard Creek and Hazard Creek. Hard Creek has one segment in the area with a classification of Wild. Hazard Creek also has one segment with a classification of Wild. Both streams are considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of their outstandingly remarkable geologic and hydrologic values. Together the river segments are 25 miles long, with an estimated 8,000 acres of associated river corridors.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-15 and portions of Valley and Idaho Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. There is an ambient air monitor located in McCall within the airshed to evaluate current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. Three Class I areas are within 100 kilometers of this management area: the Hells Canyon, Eagle Cap, and Selway-Bitterroot Wildernesses. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for these areas.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends in both counties improved for PM 10, while PM 2.5 emissions remained constant. The most common sources of particulate matter within the counties were wildfire, prescribed fire, and fugitive dust from unpaved roads. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute annually to particulate matter emissions. The amount of agricultural-related burning was very low within Valley County (less than 600 acres) and moderate within Idaho County (an estimated 13,500 acres). There were no point sources within either county.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 3,600 feet where Hazard Creek leaves the Forest boundary to 8,659 feet atop Hard Butte. Management Area 6 falls within the Granite Mountain Uplands Subsection. The main geomorphic landforms found in the area are glaciated mountains and uplands, periglacial uplands and mountain slopes, fluvial mountains and steep canyonlands, and depositional lands. Slope gradients generally range from 10 to 80 percent in the glaciated mountains and uplands, 15 to 40 percent on the periglacial uplands and mountain slopes, 30 to 80 percent on the fluvial mountains and steep canyonlands, and 0 to 20 percent on the depositional lands. The surface geology is a mix of Idaho batholith granitics and border zone metamorphics. Soils generally have moderate to high surface erosion potential, and low to moderate productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from low to high, with the majority being moderate (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately), with the majority being low (see table below). In the Goose Creek Watershed there are altered water flows from the reservoirs, and accelerated sediment from roads, timber harvest, private land uses, and livestock grazing. There have been less management-related impacts in the Hazard Creek Watershed.

The management area comprises portions of the Goose Creek, Hazard Creek, and Upper Little Salmon River Watersheds that drain into the Little Salmon River Subbasin, which flows north to the Salmon River. The main streams in the area are Hazard Creek, Hard Creek, Goose Creek, and Little Goose Creek. The area also includes at least eighteen alpine lakes and three reservoirs: Goose Lake, Brundage Reservoir, and Twin Lakes. Used for irrigation in Meadows Valley downstream, these reservoirs and a number of irrigation ditches have altered the natural flows within Goose and Brundage Creeks, and, to some degree, within the Little Salmon River below Goose Creek. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately), with the majority being moderate (see table below). Water quality is functioning at risk in the Goose Creek Watershed due to altered water flows from the reservoirs, and accelerated sediment from roads, timber harvest, private land uses, and livestock grazing. Water quality is functioning at less risk in the Hazard Creek Watershed; however, there has been localized sedimentation from roads, timber harvest, and illegal ATV use. Only one of the seven subwatersheds in this area was listed in 1998 as having impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. Temperature is identified as the pollutant of concern for Brundage Reservoir in the Upper Goose Creek subwatershed. There are currently no TMDL-assigned subbasins associated with this management area.

Subwatershed Vulnerability			Geomorphic Integrity			Water Quality Integrity			No. 303(d) Subs	No. Subs With TMDLs	No. Public Water System Subs
High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low			
1	5	1	0	3	4	0	5	2	1	0	0

The management area has designated critical habitat for chinook salmon. However, natural barrier falls have historically limited fish migration in the Goose Creek and Hazard Creek drainages, and much of these watersheds are inaccessible to anadromous fish. Development of U.S. Highway 95 and Meadows Valley in the earlier part of this century further restricted anadromous fish passage to the lower reaches of the Little Salmon River. Chinook salmon and steelhead trout can access lower Hazard and Hard Creeks. Bull trout and cutthroat trout also occur in these streams. Native redband rainbow trout occur throughout the area. Three reservoirs and two irrigation ditches affect the movement of water and sediment, and influence water temperatures in the Goose Creek Watershed. Hatchery-raised cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, kokanee salmon, and brook trout have been stocked into the watershed reservoirs and streams. High road densities, private development, and extensive timber harvest have contributed to high sediment levels in Little Goose Creek. Although native redband rainbow trout still occur in the Goose Creek Watershed, chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and bull trout do not. Fish habitat and species mix in this watershed have been substantially altered by human activities. The Final Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy ("All H Paper" 2000) identified the Little Salmon River as a high priority for restoration on non-federal lands, and recommended that actions on federal lands should link to this priority where appropriate. Restoration emphasis is on resolving stream flow, passage, and diversion problems within ten years.

Aquatic habitat is functioning properly for the most part in the Hazard Creek Watershed; however, there has been some localized sedimentation from roads and timber harvest. Habitat is functioning at risk in parts of the Goose Creek Watershed due to stream flow alteration and accelerated sediment. Native fish populations are at risk due to these habitat impacts and the presence of non-native species that compete with native fish for space and food. The Lower Hard Creek and Lower Hazard Creek subwatersheds have been identified as important to the recovery of listed fish species, and as high-priority areas for passive restoration.

Vegetation - Vegetation at lower elevations is typically grasslands, shrublands, ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir forests on south and west aspects, and Douglas-fir and grand fir forests on north and east aspects. Mid elevations are dominated by forest communities of Douglas-fir, grand fir, and subalpine fir, with pockets of lodgepole pine and aspen. Subalpine fir and whitebark pine are found at upper elevations.

An estimated 12 percent of the area is rock, water, shrubland, or grassland. The main forested vegetation groups are Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (24 percent), Warm Moist/Hydric Subalpine Fir (17 percent), Cool Moist Grand Fir (15 percent), High Elevation Subalpine Fir (14 percent), and Dry Grand Fir (11 percent).

The Montane Shrub group is at properly functioning condition. The Perennial Grass Montane Group is functioning at risk due to loss of Idaho fescue from livestock grazing and the introduction of noxious weeds and exotic species.

The Warm Moist/Hydric Subalpine Fir, High Elevation Subalpine Fir, and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir groups are at properly functioning condition. Many of the stands in these groups have recently burned, and are at the beginning of their successional cycle. The Dry Grand Fir and Cool Moist Grand Fir groups are functioning at risk due to changes in stand structure from past timber harvest. Intensive harvesting in the southern part of the area has removed many of the large ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and western larch, leaving young and mid-aged plantations that are healthy and thrifty.

Riparian vegetation is functioning at risk in some areas due primarily to localized impacts from roads and timber harvest.

Botanical Resources – Current Region 4 Sensitive plant species in this management area include puzzling halimolobos, Blandow's helodium, and Tobias' saxifrage. Tobias' saxifrage is found on open granitic, subalpine slopes (7,000 to 8,500 feet) and is endemic to Payette National Forest. It is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service species of concern. Currently, no federally listed or proposed plant species are known to occur in the area, but potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses, Spalding's silene, and slender moonwort may exist. Ute ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas up to 7,000 feet. Spalding's silene, a Threatened species, may occur in fescue grassland habitat types from 1,500 to 5,500 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants – A number of noxious weeds and exotic plants have been found within the area, particularly along the main road corridors. An estimated 17 percent of the management area is considered highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plants. The main weeds of concern are spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, rush skeletonweed, and Scotch thistle, which are currently found in scattered populations at lower elevations of the management area. Canada thistle, St. Johnswort, and yellow toadflax are found throughout the area.

The Little Goose Creek subwatershed has an inherently high risk of weed establishment risk and spread from timber harvest and road-related activities. This risk is due to the amount of drainage area that is highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and the relatively high level of exposure from those identified vectors or carriers of weed seed.

Wildlife Resources - The wide range of elevations and vegetation types in the management area provide a variety of wildlife habitats. Area forests provide habitat for a number of Region 4 sensitive species, including fisher, northern goshawk, flammulated owl, white-headed woodpecker, wolverine, great gray and boreal owl, three-toed woodpecker, and spotted frog. Lynx habitat has been mapped within the Lynx Analysis Units. The entire area provides nesting and forage habitat for migratory landbirds, and general habitat for wide-ranging mammals like elk, bear, and mountain lion. Overall, terrestrial habitat is functioning at risk due to timber harvest and roads that have resulted in low levels of large-diameter trees and snags, logs, and localized habitat fragmentation in the managed portions of the area. Wildfires have also converted thousands of acres of old structural stage stands to open or young structural stages in the unmanaged portions. Mature and old trees exist but often in poor juxtaposition and in small block sizes in the roaded portions of the area. Illegal ATV use is occurring within designated non-motorized areas, and increasing big-game vulnerability during hunting season.

Recreation Resources – This area is one of the highest recreation use areas on the Forest, and that use can be characterized as high in the summer, and even higher in the winter. Recreation facilities include Brundage Mountain Resort, Little Ski Hill, three developed campgrounds, and three winter sports parking areas. This area is extensively used for alpine skiing, back-country skiing, snowmobiling, snowboarding, snowcat skiing, hiking, ATV use, motorcycling, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, camping, boating, berry picking, sightseeing, rock-hounding, driving for pleasure, and fuelwood gathering. Although ATV use is authorized in some places in the management area, resource damage is occurring where use is occurring illegally. Illegal ATV use is originating from the Morgan Lake/Bascom Creek Trailhead, Grassy Mountain Lakes Trailhead and Buck Lake Trailhead. In all three areas, resource damage (i.e., erosion, rutting, and damage to vegetation) is occurring due to ATV users pioneering cross-country trails to access new areas. User conflicts are escalating in the Buck Lake area due to illegal ATV use. Trails designed for 2-wheel motorized vehicles are being used illegally by 4-wheel ATVs.

Three outfitter and guides have recreational use permits for the area at this time. Recreational use has been increasing dramatically over the past decade and is expected to continue to increase. Brundage Mountain Resort has submitted an expansion plan that could substantially increase year-round use in this area. About half of the use in this area originates locally. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Unit 23. A well-maintained network of trails provides a variety of motorized and non-motorized opportunities.

Providing winter recreation opportunities is the recreation emphasis in this management area. The Forest is working with the community and winter user groups to resolve potential conflicts.

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

Route or Area Type	Sensitivity Level	Name of Route or Area
Roads	1	State Highway 55, Goose Creek 453, viewshed from U.S. Highway 95, Goose Lake 257, Granite Lake 446
Roads	2	Goose Creek 453, Meadows-Goose Lake 273, Elk Meadows 308, Black Forest 347
Trails	1	Goose Creek 353, Granite Mountain 165, Grass Mountain 163, Morgan Lake 372, Upper Hazard Lake 169, Hidden Lake Loop 511
Trails	2	Vance Creek 160, Hard Creek 164
Use Areas	1	Brundage Mountain Ski Resort, Brundage Mountain Lookout, Black Lake, Rainbow Lake, Grassy Mountain Lakes, Grouse Campground, Hazard Lake Campground
Use Areas	2	Last Chance Campground, Goose Creek Overlook, North Goose Lake Boat Launch and dispersed campsite

Cultural Resources – Cultural themes in this area include Prehistoric, Transportation, Ranching, Timber, and Recreation. This area was likely used for centuries by American Indians for hunting, fishing, gathering, and as a travel way between the Snake and Salmon River corridors and Long Valley. Historically, early wagon roads through this area brought miners and supplies to Warren, and ranchers and other settlers to Long Valley. Portions of State Highway 55 were built prior to 1920. This area has been grazed by livestock since the late 1800s, and harvested for timber since the 1930s. The construction of dams at Goose Lake and Brundage Reservoir attracted summer recreationists to the area as early as the 1920s. Winter recreation began in earnest with Little Ski Hill in the late 1930s, and increased dramatically with the Brundage Mountain Ski Area in the early 1960s.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 54,600 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 23,500 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 7 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPCs 4.2 and 5.1 (see MPC map for this management area). Lands in MPCs 3.1, 4.1a, and 4.1c have been identified as not suited for timber production.

Most of the roaded portion of the management area has been managed for timber, and many plantations of different sizes and ages exist. Almost all of the roaded area is considered tentatively suited for timber management, whereas only about one third of the roadless portion of

the management area is considered tentatively suited, due mostly to concerns with access, economic efficiency, and protection of listed species. In the roaded portions, forest products such as fuelwood, posts and poles, and Christmas trees have also been collected.

Rangeland Resources - The management area contains all or portions of eight allotments, with five sheep allotments located primarily in the northern portion of the area, and three cattle allotments located in the southern portion of the area. This area provides an estimated 14,400 acres of capable rangeland, representing about 6 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources - Some past placer and lode mining has occurred. Upper Little Goose Creek area is a popular rock-hounding area (principally low quality sapphires in alluvial gravels), and has had recent exploration activity for diamonds. Mineral potential is considered low to moderate over most of the management area.

Fire Management - Prescribed fire has been used to reduce natural and activity-generated fuels in the roaded portion of the area. An estimated 20,000 acres have burned in wildfires in the last 15 years, the largest amount in the Corral Fire (16,000 acres) of 1994 and the Warm Springs Fire (2,500 acres) of 1992. Little Goose Creek subwatershed is considered to be a wildland-urban interface area due to the presence of Brundage Mountain Resort, Little Ski Hill, Rock Flat subdivision, and the adjacent Bear Basin subdivision. This subwatershed is also considered to pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. The Lower Goose Creek subwatershed, and the lower portion of the Upper Goose Creek subwatershed also have increasing residential development near the Forest.

Area fire regimes are estimated to be: 20 percent lethal, 62 percent mixed1 or 2, and 18 percent non-lethal. An estimated 18 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. Twelve percent of this change has occurred in the historically non-lethal fire regimes, resulting in conditions where wildfire would likely be much larger and more intense and severe than historically. In addition, 22 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are moderately departed from their historical range. Wildfire in these areas may result in larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity, but not to the same extent as in the highly departed areas in non-lethal fire regimes.

Lands and Special Uses - Special use authorizations have been issued for Brundage Reservoir, Goose Lake, and Twin Lakes. All three of the reservoir permittees have submitted applications requesting a permanent conditional easement be issued per Public Law 99-545, commonly known as the "Colorado Ditch Bill".

Two other irrigation uses, Delbaerre-Campbell Ditch and Goose Creek Canal, are existing water diversion systems. The water users on these systems have also submitted applications requesting permanent conditional easements per Public Law 99-545. One other water use in this area is a private spring development.

Special-use authorizations for utility rights-of-way include one to Citizens Communications for buried telephone lines, and one to Idaho Power for distribution power lines. Idaho Power also has authorizations for the McCall–New Meadows and the McCall–Brundage transmission lines; these are designated utility corridors.

A highway easement deed is issued to the State of Idaho authorizing a right–of–way for Idaho State Highway 55. Adams County has a Public Road Easement for access to the Alpine Meadows Estates in the Rock Flat area and three private road authorizations have been issued to land owners for access to their property.

A communication site is designated on Brundage Mountain; this site contains parcels used for both commercial and non-commercial uses. An authorization has been issued to the Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association for a fire lookout tower (Brundage Mountain Lookout).

The Natural Resources Conservation Service maintains and operates two automated Snotel sites in the area; one in Bear Basin and the other near Brundage Reservoir. Both sites are operated under a special use permit.

A conservation easement was acquired from a private landowner in the Rock Flat area to help protect a Sensitive plant species. A FERC license was issued to Western Hydroelectric, Inc. in July 1990 for commercial development of hydropower on Goose Creek. The construction phase of this project has not been started and a special use authorization has not yet been issued.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

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

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 2.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers	General Standard	0601	Manage the Hazard Creek and Hard Creek eligible river corridors to their assigned classification standards, and preserve the outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) and free-flowing status until the segments undergo a suitability study and the study finds them suitable for designation by Congress, or releases them from further consideration as Wild and Scenic Rivers.
	Fire Guideline	0602	Prescribed fire and wildland fire use may be used in any river corridor as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	0603	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize the impacts of suppression activities on river classifications and ORVs.
MPC 3.1	General Standard	0604	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary time period (up to 3 years), and must be designed to avoid resource degradation in the short term (3-15 years) and long term (greater than 15 years).

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 3.1 Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	Vegetation Standard	0605	Mechanical vegetation treatments, excluding salvage harvest, may only occur where: a) The responsible official determines that wildland fire use or prescribed fire would result in unreasonable risk to public safety and structures, investments, or undesirable resource affects; and b) They maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species; or c) They maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species.
	Fire Standard	0606	Wildland fire use and prescribed fire may only be used where they: a) Maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species, or b) Maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species.
	Road Standard	0607	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To address immediate response situations where, if the action is not taken, unacceptable impacts to hydrologic, aquatic, riparian or terrestrial resources, or health and safety, would result.
	Fire Guideline	0608	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize suppression strategies and tactics that minimize impacts on aquatic, terrestrial, or watershed resources.
MPC 3.2 Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	General Standard	0609	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary (up to 3 years) or short-term (3-15 years) time periods, and must be designed to avoid degradation of existing conditions in the long term (greater than 15 years).
	Vegetation Standard	0610	Vegetation restoration or maintenance treatments—including wildland fire use, mechanical, and prescribed fire—may only occur where they: a) Maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species; or b) Maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species; or c) Reduce risk of impacts from wildland fire to human life, structures, and investments.
	Road Standard	0611	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To support aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed restoration activities, or d) To address immediate response situations where, if the action is not taken, unacceptable impacts to hydrologic, aquatic, riparian or terrestrial resources, or health and safety, would result.
	Fire Guideline	0612	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize suppression strategies and tactics that minimize impacts on aquatic, terrestrial, or watershed resources.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1a Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Inventoried Roadless Areas	General Standard	0613	Management actions—including wildland fire use, prescribed fire, and special use authorizations—must be designed and implemented in a manner that does not adversely compromise the area's roadless and undeveloped character in the temporary, short term, and long term. "Adversely compromise" means an action that results in the reduction of roadless or undeveloped acres within any specific IRA. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1a Roads standard, below.
	Road Standard	0614	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	0615	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the roadless or undeveloped character of the area.
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	0616	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, wildland fire use, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the unroaded landscape in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c road standard, below.
	Road Standard	0617	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	0618	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the unroaded landscape.
MPC 4.2 Roaded Recreation Emphasis	Road Standard	0619	There shall be no net increase in road densities in the MPC 4.2 portion of the Little Goose Creek subwatershed unless it can be demonstrated through the project-level NEPA analysis and related Biological Assessment that: a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, the increase in road densities shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are already in a degraded condition, the increase in road densities shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired resource conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitat are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitat. An exception to this standard is where additional roads are required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).
	Vegetation Guideline	0620	Vegetation management actions—including wildland fire use, prescribed fire, and mechanical treatments—may be used to maintain or restore desired vegetation and fuel conditions provided they do not prevent achievement of recreation resource objectives.
	Fire Guideline	0621	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to recreation developments and investments.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 5.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Road Standard	0622	There shall be no net increase in road densities in the MPC 5.1 portion of the Lower Goose Creek subwatershed and in the MPC 5.1 portions of the Little Goose Creek subwatershed unless it can be demonstrated through the project-level NEPA analysis and related Biological Assessment that: a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, the increase in road densities shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are already in a degraded condition, the increase in road densities shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired resource conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitat are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitat. An exception to this standard is where additional roads are required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).
	Vegetation Guideline	0623	The full range of vegetation treatment activities may be used to restore or maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. The available vegetation treatment activities include wildland fire use. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Fire Guideline	0624	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to habitats, developments, and investments.
	Road Guideline	0625	Road construction or reconstruction may occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To achieve restoration and maintenance objectives for vegetation, water quality, aquatic habitat, or terrestrial habitat; or d) To support management actions taken to reduce wildfire risks in wildland-urban interface areas; or e) To meet access and travel management objectives.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Goal	0626	Improve water quality and geomorphic integrity by reducing road-related accelerated sediment in the Goose Creek Watershed.
	Objective	0627	Identify and implement actions to reduce impacts to soil and water from Hartley Meadows Road.
	Objective	0628	Work with Brundage Mountain Resort to address accelerated erosion from roads and trails.
	Objective	0629	Reduce soil compaction and restore vegetation by restricting dispersed camping to specific sites around Goose Lake Reservoir and Brundage Reservoir.
	Objective	0630	Enforce motorized trail designations and restrictions with increased on-the-ground patrols to minimize erosion and sedimentation problems in riparian areas.
	Objective	0631	Improve stream crossings on Forest Trails 344 and 347 to reduce impacts to water quality and fish habitat, and increase user safety.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	0632	Work with the State of Idaho and Brundage Reservoir users to remove Brundage Reservoir from the 303(d) list by taking action to improve temperature regime.
	Objective	0633	Maintain fish habitat for chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout in the Lower Hazard Creek and Lower Hard Creek subwatersheds through passive restoration strategies to help promote the recovery of these listed fish species.
Vegetation	Objective	0634	Use a mix of prescribed fire, wildland fire, and mechanical treatments to restore or maintain vegetative composition and structure, and to reduce fuel loadings in the management area.
Botanical Resources	Objective	0635	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including puzzling halimolobos, Blandow's helodium, and Tobias' saxifrage to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Objective	0636	Implement the Forest Service approved portions of the conservation strategy for Tobias' saxifrage to maintain viability of the species.
Non-native Plants	Objective	0637	To reduce impacts on native plants and other resources, eradicate new and small infestations of spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, Scotch thistle, and rush skeletonweed. Contain infestations of yellow toadflax, Canada thistle, and St. Johnswort.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	0638	Reduce open road densities in the Goose Creek Watershed to reduce big-game vulnerability.
	Objective	0639	Increase white-headed woodpecker and flammulated owl habitat by managing ponderosa pine stands within the Dry Grand Fir vegetation group toward the desired ranges of size classes, canopy closures, species composition, snags, and coarse woody debris, as described in Appendix A.
	Guideline	0640	An increase in the white-headed woodpecker or flammulated owl habitat may be achieved by the following methods: a) Reducing tree densities and ladder fuels under and around existing large ponderosa trees and snags to reduce the risk of tree-replacing fire and to restore more open canopy conditions. b) Managing the firewood program to retain large-diameter ponderosa pine and large snags of other species through signing, public education, size restriction, area closures, or other appropriate methods.
Recreation Resources	Objective	0641	Manage and facilitate the resolution of conflicts between winter recreationists.
	Objective	0642	Enforce motorized trail designations and restrictions with increased on-the-ground patrols to allow for improved big-game security during hunting season.
	Objective	0643	Expand Hazard Lake Campground to provide for increased recreation demand.
	Objective	0644	Consider and evaluate the expansion of the Brundage Mountain Resort and Little Ski Hill.
	Objective	0645	Relocate lower Goose Creek Trail from Last Chance Campground to Goose Creek Falls to reduce impacts to Goose Creek and improve public safety.

<table>
<tr><th>MPC/Resource Area</th><th>Direction</th><th>Number</th><th>Management Direction Description</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="9">Recreation Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0646</td><td>Install a trail bridge crossing at Hazard Creek at the terminus of Forest Development Road 339 to improve recreation access and reduce impacts to water quality and fish habitat.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0647</td><td>Resolve user conflicts arising from unauthorized motorized use in the Buck Lake area by enforcing motorized trail designations and restrictions.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0648</td><td>Maintain Bascom Canyon as a non-motorized area to minimize erosion and sedimentation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0649</td><td>Manage motorized recreation to address erosion, flow channeling, soil compaction, and loss of vegetation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0650</td><td>Rehabilitate pioneered, non-system trails to mitigate erosion, flow channeling, soil compaction and loss of vegetation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0651</td><td>Where alternatives exist, relocate trails that are currently within riparian areas to mitigate erosion and sedimentation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0652</td><td>Where motorized use is consistent with the recreation emphasis and will not cause unacceptable resource damage, reconstruct existing 2-wheel motorized trails to accommodate 4-wheel ATVs.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0653</td><td>Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy:
<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">ROS Class</th><th colspan="2">Percent of Mgt. Area</th></tr>
<tr><th>Summer</th><th>Winter</th></tr>
<tr><td>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</td><td>21%</td><td>0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td><td>39%</td><td>91%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Roaded Natural</td><td>24%</td><td>4%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Roaded Modified</td><td>16%</td><td>5%</td></tr>
</table>
The above numbers reflect current travel regulations. These numbers may change as a result of future travel regulation planning</td></tr>
<tr><td>Scenic Environment</td><td>Objective</td><td>0654</td><td>Maintain scenic values as seen from the Highway 55 corridor (Goose Creek Canyon), Highway 95 corridor, Bear Creek Lodge, Little Ski Hill, and Brundage Mountain Resort and Forest Road 257 to maintain a natural-appearing setting in high-use recreation areas and for visitors in and near the Forest.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Timberland Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0655</td><td>Reduce the opportunity for noxious weed establishment and spread by keeping suitable weed sites to a minimum during timber harvest activities in the Little Goose Creek subwatershed. Consider such methods as designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fire line construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Guideline</td><td>0656</td><td>Existing noxious weed infestations should be treated on landings, skid trails, and helibases in the project area before timber harvest activities begin in the Little Goose Creek subwatershed.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rangeland Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0657</td><td>Improve upland vegetation composition on Grassy Mountain to reduce erosion and increase plant species diversity.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mineral Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0658</td><td>Withdraw from mineral entry the gem-collecting area in upper Little Goose Creek. Develop a management plan for a public collecting area to maintain this recreation opportunity.</td></tr>
</table>

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Fire Management	Objective	0659	Identify areas appropriate for Wildland Fire Use, emphasizing Inventoried Roadless Areas. Use wildland fire to restore or maintain vegetative desired conditions and to reduce fuel loadings.
	Objective	0660	Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments within and adjacent to wildland-urban interface areas and Forest Service administrative sites to manage fuels to reduce wildfire hazards. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans for wildland-urban interface in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.
	Objective	0661	Coordinate and emphasize fire education and prevention programs with private landowners to help reduce wildfire hazards and risks. Work with landowners to increase defensible space around structures.
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	0662	Maintain and administer the conservation easement adjacent to Rock Flat to help protect the swamp onion, a Sensitive plant species.
	Objective	0663	Update the existing site plan for the Brundage Mountain communications site to meet agency policy and eliminate potential use conflicts.
	Objective	0664	Acquire and grant rights of way and permits to meet the resource access needs of the Forest Service, public users, and cost-share cooperators. The main cooperator in this area is Boise Corporation, with lands in or adjacent to the Brown Creek portion of the Lower Hard Creek Subwatershed.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	0665	Evaluate and implement measures to reduce road maintenance issues and potential public safety concerns associated with rockslides at Clow Point along the Goose Lake Road, Forest Service Road 257.
	Objective	0666	Coordinate transportation system development, management, and decommissioning with Boise Corporation cost-share cooperators to develop a shared transportation system serving the lands of all parties to the extent possible.
	Objective	0667	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Little Goose Creek subwatershed. Methods to be considered include: a) When decommissioning roads, treat weeds before roads are made impassable. b) Schedule road maintenance activities when weeds are least likely to be viable or spread. Blade from least to most infested sites. c) Consult or coordinate with the district noxious weed coordinator when scheduling road maintenance activities. d) Periodically inspect road systems and rights of way. e) Avoid accessing water for dust abatement through weed-infested sites, or utilize mitigation to minimize weed seed transport.

Goose Creek Falls