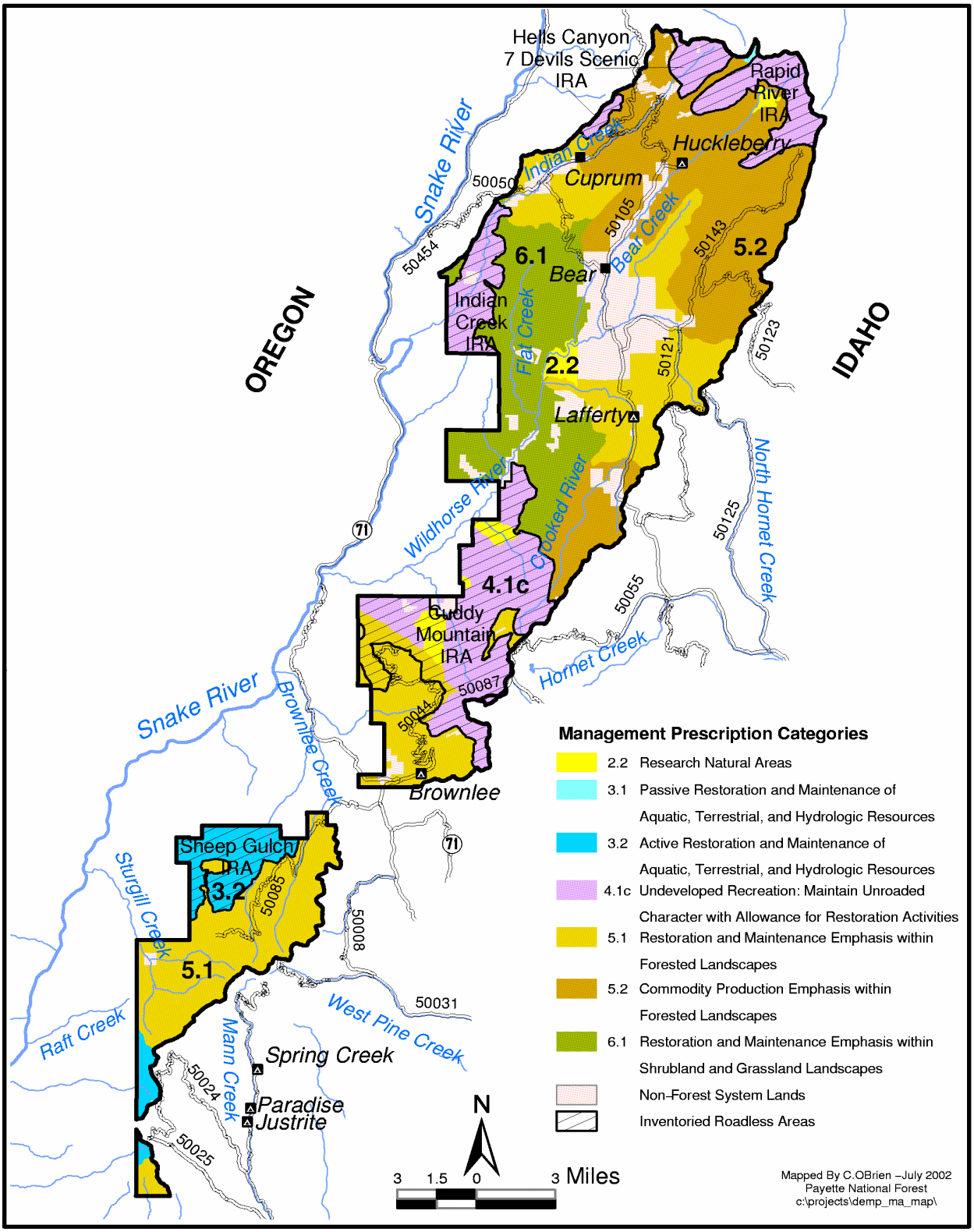
Management Area 02 –Snake River –Location Map



Management Area 2
Snake River

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 2 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
2.2 – Research Natural Areas	2
3.1 – Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial & Hydrologic Resources	Trace
3.2 – Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial & Hydrologic Resources	5
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	19
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	33
5.2 – Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	26
6.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Shrubland & Grassland Landscapes	15

General Location and Description - Management Area 2 is comprised of lands administered by the Payette National Forest within the Snake River drainage south of Hells Canyon (see map, preceding page). The area lies in Adams and Washington Counties, and is part of the Council and Weiser Ranger Districts. The management area is an estimated 168,200 acres, which includes several private land inholdings (OX Ranch and the communities of Bear and Cuprum) that make up about 10 percent of the area. Management Area 2 is comprised of two long and relatively narrow north-south blocks of land that are bordered by Payette National Forest to the east, and by a mix of private, BLM, and State lands to the west. The Hells Canyon NRA and Wilderness Area lie to the north of the northern block, and the Cecil Andrus Wildlife Management Area is situated next to the southwest corner of the northern block. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been timber management, livestock grazing, dispersed recreation, irrigation, and mining.

Access - The main access to the area is by paved State Highway 71 from Cambridge, Idaho to Brownlee Guard Station, or by paved and graveled Hornet Creek Road (Forest Road 002) from Council to Bear and Cuprum. Other well-maintained and gravel-surfaced access routes include Forest Road 085 to Middle and West Brownlee Creeks and Forest Road 105 to the Bear Work Center. The estimated density of classified roads for this management area is 1.7 miles per square mile. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0.3 and 7.5 miles per square mile. Trails provide access to portions of the roadless areas, and most of these trails are open to some form of motorized use.

Special Features - An estimated 24 percent of the management area is inventoried as roadless, including all of the Sheep Gulch Roadless Area, most of the Indian Creek Roadless Area, and portions of the Cuddy Mountain, Hells Canyon/Seven Devils, and Rapid River Roadless Areas.

Five Research Natural Areas (Bear Creek, Rocky Comfort Flat, Cuddy Mountain, Emery Creek, and Lost Basin Grasslands) represent a variety of vegetation types in the management area. Bear Creek (409 acres) provides high-quality, representative grand fir habitat types in a range of structural conditions. Rocky Comfort Flat (996 acres) has Douglas-fir forest, mountain mahogany and sagebrush shrubland, bluebunch wheatgrass grassland communities, and habitat for rare and unusual plants. Cuddy Mountain (1,030 acres) has a range of forest and grassland associations on volcanic parent materials, including Douglas-fir, grand fir, black cottonwood, mountain big sage/bluebunch wheatgrass, and bluebunch wheatgrass/Sandberg's bluegrass. Emery Creek (685 acres) encompasses extensive areas of two Columbia Plateau grassland plant communities and several Douglas-fir habitat types. Lost Basin Grasslands (75 acres) has a diversity of grassland plant communities in excellent condition, and incidental examples of shrub-bunchgrass and Douglas-fir plant communities.

A portion of Crooked River is eligible for Wild and Scenic River status (see WSR Map in the map packet). This river segment has a Scenic classification, and is an estimated 3.2 miles long, with an associated river corridor of 1,030 acres.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-14 and portions of Adams and Washington Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management activities. No ambient air monitors are located within the airshed. There are two Class I areas within 100 kilometers of this management area, the Hells Canyon and Eagle Cap Wildernesses. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for these areas.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends for 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 to particulate matter emissions, although the amount of agricultural-related burning was very low in Adams County (less than 600 acres) and low in Washington County (an estimated 3,300 acres). There were no point sources within either county.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 1,750 feet on Indian Creek to 8,005 feet atop Smith Mountain. Management Area 2 falls primarily within the Hornet Plateau and Sturgill Peak Plateau Uplands Subsections. The main geomorphic landforms found in the area are periglacial uplands and mountain slopes, plateaus and escarpments, and fluvial mountains. Slope gradients average 15 to 40 percent on the periglacial uplands and mountain slopes, 30 to 50 percent on the fluvial mountains, and 15 to 80 percent on the plateaus and escarpments. The surface geology is primarily Columbia River basalts, with scattered inclusions of granitic and metasedimentary rock. Soils generally have low to high surface erosion potential, and moderate to high 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) (see table below). Localized impacts occur from roads, timber harvest, mining, wildfires, and livestock grazing. Although impacts have been fairly high in some areas, the basalt landtypes and productive soils in this area are inherently more stable and resilient than those in most other parts of the Forest.

The management area comprises portions of seven 5th field hydrologic units in the Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin: the Indian-McGraw, Bear Creek, Wildhorse River, Brownlee, Sturgill-Soda, Wolf-Conner, and Rock Creek Watersheds. All the watersheds drain directly into the Snake River Basin. The major tributary streams to the Snake River in the area are Indian Creek, Bear Creek, Wildhorse River, and Brownlee Creek. There are no natural lakes in the area, but three large reservoirs (Brownlee, Oxbow, and Hells Canyon) on the Snake River lie to the west of the area. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). Localized impacts, include sediment loading and thermal changes due to water diversions, timber harvest, mining, natural landslides, and livestock grazing. Only one of the 28 subwatersheds in this area was listed in 1998 as having impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. This subwatershed is Dennett Creek. The pollutant concerns in this subwatershed are sediment, temperature, and flow alteration. There are currently no TMDL-assigned subwatersheds 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			
4	18	6	0	9	19	0	22	6	1	0	0

Anadromous fish species no longer exist within area streams due to downstream dams that block their migration routes to and from the ocean. Native redband trout occur throughout area streams, as do introduced brook trout. Threatened bull trout occur in isolated populations, but habitat is fragmented by roads and culverts, irrigation dams and ditches, thermal barriers and, in some cases, natural barrier falls. Although accelerated sediment is fairly high in some areas, sufficient spawning habitat exists. However, rearing habitat is functioning at risk due to elevated water temperatures. Bull trout occur within the Lower Indian, Middle Indian, Upper Indian, Upper Crooked River, Lower Crooked River, and Upper Bear Creek subwatersheds. Highly isolated local populations of bull trout exist in the Upper Crooked River, Lower Crooked, and Upper Bear Creek subwatersheds. Aquatic habitat is functioning at risk in some areas due to high water temperatures and habitat fragmentation. Native fish populations are at risk due to habitat impacts described above and the presence of non-native fish species. The Upper Indian Creek, Upper Crooked Creek, Lower Crooked Creek, and Upper Bear Creek subwatersheds have been identified as important to the bull trout recovery, and as high-priority areas for restoration.

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

Just over 30 percent of the management area is comprised of rock, water, or shrubland and grassland vegetation groups, including Perennial Grass Montane, Perennial Grass Slopes, Montane Shrub, Bitterbrush, Mountain Big Sage, and Low Sage. The main forested vegetation groups in the area are Cool Moist Grand Fir (24 percent), Warm Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa

Pine (17 percent), Dry Grand Fir (13 percent), Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (9 percent), and Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir (4 percent). Isolated patches of the Warm Dry Subalpine Fir group are scattered through the upper elevations, primarily on north slopes and in high basins (e.g., No Business Creek or Benton Creek). These patches provide the "fragmented lynx habitat" referred to in the Wildlife characterization. On the northern end of the management area, succession is moving these stands outside their historic range of variation due to lack of disturbance.

In the non-forested groups, Perennial Grass Montane and Perennial Grass Slopes are functioning at risk due to increases in non-native species such as cheat grass and Medusa head rye, and noxious weeds such as Scotch thistle, white top, and Dalmatian toadflax. Montane Shrub and Low Sage are at properly functioning condition. Mountain Big Sagebrush and Bitterbrush are functioning at risk due to the high percentage of older structural stages, lack of regeneration, and an increase in non-native species. Past fire exclusion and grazing impacts have contributed to older, more decadent stand conditions that are less resilient to fire and other disturbances.

The Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir groups are at properly functioning condition, although dwarf mistletoe levels are moderate to high in the Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, and western larch components. The Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine, Dry Grand Fir, and Cool Moist Grand Fir groups are functioning at risk. In managed areas, these groups have low levels of large trees, snags, logs, insects, and disease, and high levels of seral species and mid-aged structural stages. In unmanaged areas, these groups have high stand densities, with shade-tolerant grand fir and high levels of insect and disease infestations, which have increased the risk of stand-replacing fire.

Some riparian vegetation is functioning at risk due to localized impacts from roads, livestock grazing, and private land uses, particularly in the Brownlee Creek and Wildhorse River drainages. Composition has changed in many riparian areas due to roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and fire exclusion. Noxious weed species have increased and native sedge species have decreased. Cottonwoods and broadleaf shrubs have also decreased, and are not regenerating in many areas due to lack of fire disturbance, hydrologic changes, and non-native plant competition.

Botanical Resources - Several current Region 4 Sensitive species occur in this area, including Snake River goldenweed, Tolmie's onion, puzzling halimolobos, and Cusisk's camas. Although no federally listed or proposed plant species are currently known to occur in the area, potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses, Spalding's silene, and slender moonwort may exist within the area. Spalding's silene, a Threatened species, may occur in fescue grassland habitat types up to 5,500 feet in elevation. Ute Ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate to high potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas up to 7,000 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants - Many noxious weeds and exotic plants have been introduced into the area, particularly along the main road corridors. An estimated 26 percent of the area is highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plant species. The main weeds of concern are spotted knapweed, diffuse knapweed, Scotch thistle, whitetop, Dalmatian toadflax, St.

Johnwort, and Canada thistle. Most weeds are currently found in small, scattered populations within the area. Canada thistle and St. Johnswort are dispersed throughout the area. Brownlee Campground is considered highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and spread.

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

Subwatershed	Road-related Activities	Livestock Use	Timber Harvest	Recreation & Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Rock Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Salt Creek-Black Canyon	Yes	No	No	No	No
Lower Brownlee Creek	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
East Brownlee Creek	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Middle Brownlee Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
West Brownlee Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Dennett Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No

Wildlife Resources - The wide range of elevations and vegetation types in this area provide a variety of wildlife habitats. Much of the lower-elevation grasslands and shrublands is winter/ spring range for elk and deer, and habitat for introduced turkey and chukar. Mid-elevation mixed conifer forests provide habitat for Region 4 sensitive species, including northern goshawk, flammulated owl, summer habitat for mountain quail and white-headed woodpecker. Bighorn sheep, mountain goats, golden eagles, and many species of bats use the rocky bluffs that extend up the Snake River canyonlands. Bighorn sheep populations near the northwest corner of the management area are threatened by disease transmission from domestic sheep. High-elevation subalpine fir forests provide nesting and foraging habitat for many migratory land birds, as well as summer range for mammals such as elk, black bear, and mountain lion. Isolated habitat for the Threatened species, northern Idaho ground squirrel, occurs in the northern portion of the management area. Habitat for lynx, also a Threatened species, occurs in fragmented patches in this area. Because of this, only the northern corner of the area has been mapped as part of a Lynx Analysis Unit that extends into the Hells Canyon Wilderness and the Rapid River drainage. Overall, terrestrial habitat is functioning at risk for several reasons. Roads and harvest units in some areas have increased habitat fragmentation and vulnerability for game species. Past harvest units have relatively low levels of large trees, snags, and down logs for species dependent on those components. The introduction of exotic plant species and noxious weeds has lowered the quality of habitat and forage for some native species. Fire exclusion and conifer encroachment have reduced habitat for northern Idaho ground squirrels.

Recreation Resources - Dispersed recreation such as hunting, hiking, sightseeing, and camping occurs throughout the area. There are many dispersed campsites and five developed campgrounds. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Units 22 and 31. Many of the users come from the Treasure Valley (Boise, Nampa, Caldwell), about 100 miles to the south, as well as local communities such as Council and Cambridge. Most of the trails in the area are

open to some form of motorized use. Roadless areas and travel corridors are managed to retain a natural-appearing setting and visual quality. Recreation special uses include two annual recreation events and two outfitter/guide permits.

Dispersed recreation is emphasized. Dispersed camping opportunities are maintained and resource protection measures are used where needed. Other types of dispersed recreation uses offer a mix of roaded and unroaded opportunities. Roads, areas, and trails are signed as to motorized access restrictions.

Developed recreation sites are maintained at current or improved levels. Renovation of existing developed sites occurs when current facility conditions no longer effectively serve the public.

Trail maintenance is emphasized. Trail funding is used to maintain trails at current or improved levels. The most heavily used trails and those with resource damage have maintenance priority. Trailhead signing indicates the types of trail use allowed.

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

Route or Area Type	Sensitivity Level	Name of Route or Area
Roads	1	State Highway 71, Black Lake 112, Sheep Rock 106, Landore 105
Roads	2	Council-Cuprum 002, Lick Creek 143, Grouse Creek 123, Landore 105, Bear Creek 110, Cuddy Mountain 087
Trails	1	None
Trails	2	Little Bear Creek 226, Upper Bear Creek 228, Upper Lick Creek 229, Mickey Creek 230, Lick Creek Ridge 231, Crooked River 235, Grouse Creek-Grizzly Creek 252, 253, 254, 255, 257, 258
Use Areas	1	Brownlee Campground, Lick Creek Lookout
Use Areas	2	Lafferty Campground, Huckleberry Campground, Cuddy Point Lookout

Cultural Resources – Cultural themes in this area include Mining, Native American, Homesteading/Ranching, and Forest Service Administration. Historic mining sites and communities such as Cuprum, Landore, and Decorah are located here, as are the Smith Mountain and Horse Mountain Fire Lookouts. Early ranching and homesteading sites include the Davis community and what is now the OX Ranch. Numerous upland prehistoric American Indian sites and travel routes exist in this area.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 94,700 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 64,100 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 19 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPCs 5.2, 5.1, and 6.1 (see MPC map for this management area).

Lands in MPCs 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, and 4.1c have been identified as not suited for timber production. Past activities have included road building, logging, and plantations related to both green and salvage timber harvest. Forest products such as fuelwood, posts and poles, and Christmas trees are collected in designated areas. This area also includes the Calf Pen Progeny Test Area.

Rangeland Resources - The management area contains all or portions of 12 allotments, with one sheep allotment located primarily in the northern third of the area, and eleven cattle allotments located throughout the remaining area. Management Area 2 provides an estimated 42,900 acres of capable rangeland, which represents about 19 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources - Many mining claims exist in Management Area 2. Although no claim currently has an approved plan of operation, the potential for mineral development is considerable.

Fire Management - Prescribed fire is used for general vegetative restoration, to improve winter range conditions, and to reduce activity-generated and natural fuels. Wildland fires have burned an estimated 8,000 acres (5 percent) of the management area at moderate to high intensity in the last 15 years. The largest burns (7,500 acres) were the Windy Ridge Fire of 1992 and the Fawn Creek Fire of 1991 (344 acres).

Cuprum is a National Fire Plan community, and Upper Indian Creek, Middle Indian Creek, and Upper Crooked River subwatersheds are considered wildland-urban interface areas due to residential development adjacent to the Forest. The Upper Indian Creek and Middle Indian Creek subwatersheds are also considered to pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 1 percent lethal, 50 percent mixed1 or 2, and 49 percent non-lethal. An estimated 11 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. Most of this change has occurred in the historically non-lethal fire regimes, resulting in conditions where wildfire would likely be much larger and more intense and severe than historically. In addition, 48 percent of the area is in moderately departed conditions—21 percent in the mixed1/mixed2 fire regimes, and 27 percent in the non-lethal regimes. Wildfire in these areas may result in somewhat larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity, but not to the same extent as in the highly departed areas in non-lethal fire regimes.

Lands and Special Uses – A special use authorization is issued to Idaho Power for the Oxbow-McCall power transmission line, a designated utility corridor. Idaho Power also maintains the Brownlee-Boise Bench 3 and 4, power transmission lines. These power lines are located in designated utility corridors and are authorized as part of the current FERC license for the Hell's Canyon Dam Complex. When this hydropower project is re-licensed, the power line may be authorized under special use permit. Other authorizations issued to Idaho Power include buried power lines serving the Cuprum-Bear area and the microwave site on Lynes Point.

Cambridge Telephone Company is authorized for buried telephone lines serving the Cuprum-Bear and Crooked River areas. Midvale Telephone Company is authorized for buried telephone cables serving the Brownlee Reservoir area.

Lynes Point and Smith Mountain are designated communication sites. These sites are designated for both commercial and non-commercial uses.

There are numerous isolated parcels of private land scattered throughout the area. These private lands often depend on access across the National Forest System lands using system roads and in some situations may require authorization to use and occupy the Forest for road access. There are five private road easements. Adams County has been issued a Highway Easement Deed for the right-of-way on the Council-Cuprum Road.

There is one authorization for a domestic water system, and one for operation and maintenance of an irrigation ditch. Two permittees have submitted applications for their agricultural water systems, requesting that a permanent conditional easement be issued per Public Law 99-545, commonly known as the *Colorado Ditch Bill*.

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 2.2 Research Natural Areas	General Standard	0201	Mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use may only be used to maintain values for which the areas were established, or to achieve other objectives that are consistent with the RNA establishment record or management plan.
	Road Standard	0202	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To maintain the values for which the RNA was established.
	Fire Guideline	0203	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression strategies and tactics should minimize impacts to the values for which the RNA was established.
MPC 3.1 Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	General Standard	0204	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary time period (up to 3 years), and must be designed to avoid resource degradation in the short term (3-15 years) and long term (greater than 15 years).
	Vegetation Standard	0205	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.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 3.1 Passive Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Hydrologic Resources	Fire Standard	0206	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	0207	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	0208	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	0209	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary (up to 3 years) or short-term time periods, and must be designed to avoid resource degradation in the long term (greater than 15 years).
	Vegetation Standard	0210	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	0211	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	0212	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize suppression strategies and tactics that minimize impacts on aquatic, terrestrial, or watershed resources.
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	0213	Management actions allowed—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 standards, below.
	Road Standard	0214	Within IRAs, 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.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	Road Standard	0215	Outside IRAs, 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 provide transportation systems that support accomplishment of Management Area ROS objectives.
	Fire Guideline	0216	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 5.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Road Standard	0217	There shall be no net increase in road densities in the MPC 5.1 portion of the Lower Crooked 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 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).
	Road Standard	0218	New roads and landings shall be located outside of RCAs in the MPC 5.1 portion of the Lower Crooked Creek subwatershed unless it can be demonstrated through a project-level NEPA analysis and Biological Assessment that: a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, any new road or landing in an RCA shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are in a degraded condition, any new road or landing in an RCA shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitats are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitats. An exception to this standard is where construction of new roads in RCAs is required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).
	Fire Guideline	0219	The full range of treatment activities may be used to restore and maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. The available vegetation treatment activities include wildland fire use. Salvage harvest may also occur.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 5.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Fire Guideline	0220	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	0221	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.
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Road Standard	0222	There shall be no net increase in road densities in the 5.2 MPC portions of the Upper Crooked Creek and Upper Bear Creek subwatersheds unless it can be demonstrated through a project-level NEPA analysis and 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 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).
	Fire Standard	0223	Wildland fire use is prohibited.
	Road Standard	0224	New roads and landings shall be located outside of RCAs in the MPC 5.2 portions of the Upper Crooked Creek and Upper Bear Creek subwatersheds unless it can be demonstrated through a project-level NEPA analysis and Biological Assessment that: a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, any new road or landing in an RCA shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are in a degraded condition, any new road or landing in an RCA shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitats are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitats. An exception to this standard is where construction of new roads in RCAs is required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Fire Guideline	0225	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to developments and investments.
	Fire Guideline	0226	Prescribed fire may be used to: a) Maintain or restore desired vegetative conditions on unsuited timberlands; or b) Maintain or restore desired fuel conditions for all vegetation types; or c) Maintain desired vegetative conditions on suited timberlands within PVGs 2 through 10.
MPC 6.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Shrubland and Grassland Landscapes	Fire Guideline	0227	The full range of treatment activities may be used to restore and maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. The available vegetation treatment activities include wildland fire use. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Fire Guideline	0228	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	0229	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	Objective	0230	Restore riparian vegetation and floodplain function by reducing the adverse effects of roads through relocation, reconstruction, or obliteration in the Brownlee Creek and Wildhorse River drainages.
	Objective	0231	Initiate restoration of watershed conditions and fish habitat in the Upper Indian Creek, Upper Bear Creek, and Upper Crooked River, and Lower Crooked Creek subwatersheds to help strengthen bull trout populations.
	Guideline	0232	Avoid land-disturbing management activities on potentially unstable areas (landslide-prone areas or active portions of existing landslides), particularly on oversteepened canyonland slopes in the Sturgill, West Brownlee, Cottonwood/Robinette, Dennett, Lower Brownlee, and East Brownlee drainages.
Vegetation	Objective	0233	Allow natural succession to dominate in the Warm Dry Subalpine Fir group south of Cuddy Mountain. Increase early seral conifer species (Douglas-fir, western larch, Engelmann spruce, and lodgepole pine) in the Warm Dry Subalpine Fir group from Cuddy Mountain north to Smith Mountain.
	Objective	0234	Maintain and promote native grasses and aspen where they occur, and maintain or restore desired conditions for age and canopy class structure in sagebrush and bitterbrush cover types.
	Objective	0235	Restore structure and composition of shrub and deciduous tree components in those portions of riparian areas where these components are missing or on a downward trend due to historic livestock use, fire exclusion, conifer encroachment, roads, and non-native plants.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Vegetation	Objective	0236	Restore herbaceous and hydric plant composition in Brownlee Creek and Wildhorse River drainages to move toward desired conditions for species composition in these areas.
Botanical Resources	Objective	0237	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including Snake River goldenweed, Tolmie's onion, puzzling halimolobos, and Cusisk's camas to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Objective	0238	Continue long-term monitoring of Snake River goldenweed to determine whether the viability of local populations is maintained over the long term.
Non-native Plants	Objective	0239	To reduce impacts on native plants and other resources, eradicate new and small infestations of spotted knapweed and diffuse knapweed. Control density and size of Scotch thistle, whitetop, Canada thistle, and Dalmatian toadflax populations. Contain St. Johnswort.
Wildlife Resources	Goal	0240	Restore northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat quality, abundance, and connectivity to promote recovery of the species.
	Objective	0241	Implement the recovery plan for the northern Idaho ground squirrel, when approved, to promote recovery of the species.
	Objective	0242	Increase white-headed woodpecker habitat by managing ponderosa pine stands within the Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir, Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine, and Dry Grand Fir vegetation groups toward the desired ranges of size classes, canopy closures, species composition, snags, and coarse woody debris, as described in Appendix A. The ranges of these components may vary by management prescription.
	Objective	0243	Increase flammulated owl habitat by managing ponderosa pine stands within the Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine and Dry Grand Fir vegetation groups toward the desired ranges of size classes, canopy closures, species composition, snags, and coarse woody debris, as described in Appendix A. The ranges of these components may vary by management prescription category.
	Guideline	0244	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.
	Objective	0245	Maintain or restore shrubland and grassland communities to provide for big-game winter/spring range along the Snake River breaks.
	Objective	0246	Coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game to reduce bull elk vulnerability through the use of security areas and reductions in open road density to move toward State herd composition objectives.
	Objective	0247	Coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and domestic sheep permittees to reduce the risk of disease transmission between domestic and wild sheep.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Wildlife Resources	Standard	0248	The northern Idaho ground squirrel will receive priority consideration for all management activities that occur within their known occupied habitat. The intent of this standard is not to exclude all other activities within this habitat, but rather to reduce or minimize potential impacts to this species while emphasizing habitat improvement within and adjacent to known sites.
	Standard	0249	Vegetation treatments must be designed and implemented to maintain or improve existing wildlife habitat values in forest stringers south of Cuddy Mountain. Forest stringers in this area are defined as narrow fingers of forested vegetation less than 500 feet wide, or isolated patches of forested vegetation less than 10 acres in size.
Recreation Resources	Objective	0250	Evaluate developed campgrounds and upgrade as needed to provide universal access and to accommodate larger camp trailers and recreation vehicles.
	Objective	0251	Evaluate the need for dispersed campsites and establish sites within areas where they will have relatively low impacts to important biophysical resources.
	Objective	0252	Construct parking areas and provide information signs at key trailhead locations. Parking for a minimum of two or three vehicles is needed in most cases to improve recreation experiences.
	Objective	0253	Repair trails where erosion and water-caused resource damage is occurring. Repairs may include rehabilitating eroded trail sections, rerouting sections away from streams, and installing bridges.
	Objective	0254	Seek to acquire trail easements through private lands to improve access to National Forest recreation opportunities.
	Objective	0255	Develop a travel access plan for areas adjacent to the Cecil Andrus Wildlife Management Area to create more effective management and recreation opportunities, which will better serve the public and maintain wildlife resources. Coordinate planning efforts with Idaho Department of Fish and Game.
	Objective	0256	Develop a scenic overlook and interpretive site at Brownlee Summit to enhance visitor experiences.
	Objective	0257	Improve trail signing, especially in areas near Cuddy Mountain and Sturgill Peak where past management activities have made trail location difficult.
	Objective	0258	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from off-road ATV/motorbike use in the Middle Brownlee Creek subwatershed. Methods to consider include annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.

<table>
<tr><th>MPC/Resource Area</th><th>Direction</th><th>Number</th><th>Management Direction Description</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Recreation Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0259</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>0%</td><td>42%</td></tr><tr><td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td><td>20%</td><td>10%</td></tr><tr><td>Roaded Natural</td><td>9%</td><td>7%</td></tr><tr><td>Roaded Modified</td><td>71%</td><td>41%</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>Standard</td><td>0260</td><td>All new developed recreation facilities shall be located outside occupied NIDGS habitat.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Guideline</td><td>0261</td><td>Consider Brownlee Campground as a high priority area for noxious weed inspection, eradication, and prevention. Noxious weed detection, management, and prevention should be practiced and promoted at this facility on an annual basis.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Cultural Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0262</td><td>Document surface area and do limited archeological testing on the Steen Creek prehistoric occupation site (PY-330/10AM107) that was disturbed during timber harvest activities to meet state and federal requirements for management of historic properties.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Timberland Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0263</td><td>Reduce the acres of Douglas-fir dwarf mistletoe infection in the upper elevations of the Hitt Mountains by regenerating stands and planting ponderosa pine and non-host species, if possible, or by creating openings without infected residual trees.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0264</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 Rock Creek, East Brownlee, Middle Brownlee, and West Brownlee subwatersheds. Consider such methods as designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fire line construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Guideline</td><td>0265</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 Rock Creek, East Brownlee, Middle Brownlee, and West Brownlee subwatersheds.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="4">Rangeland Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0266</td><td>Provide rangeland management systems to help restore riparian vegetation and bank stability in the Brownlee Creek and Wildhorse River drainages.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0267</td><td>Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from livestock grazing activities in the Middle Brownlee Creek and Rock Creek subwatersheds. Methods to consider include changes in the timing, intensity, duration, or frequency of livestock use; the location of salting; and restoration of watering sites.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Standard</td><td>0268</td><td>Livestock salting shall be located outside occupied NIDGS habitat.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Guideline</td><td>0269</td><td>Coordinate livestock use and activity with NIDGS habitat needs.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Fire Management</td><td>Objective</td><td>0270</td><td>Identify areas appropriate for Wildland Fire Use, emphasizing areas next to the Rapid River Inventoried Roadless Area and Hells Canyon Wilderness. Use wildland fire to restore or maintain vegetative desired conditions and to reduce fuel loadings.</td></tr>
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MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Fire Management	Objective	0271	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	0272	Use prescribed fire to increase early seral conifer species in the higher-elevation vegetation groups from Cuddy Mountain north to Smith Mountain.
	Objective	0273	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.
	Standard	0274	Once a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) is approved, heavy equipment shall not be used to construct fire lines within occupied NIDGS habitat unless: a) The line officer or designee determines that imminent safety to human life or protection of structures is an issue; OR b) The incident resource advisor determines and documents an escaped fire would cause more degradation to occupied NIDGS habitat than would result from heavy equipment disturbance. In no case will the decision to use heavy equipment in occupied NIDGS habitat be delayed when the line officer or designee determines safety or loss of human life or protection of structures is at imminent risk.
	Standard	0275	Once a WFSA is approved, incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, helispots, and other centers for incident activities shall be located outside of occupied NIDGS habitat unless the only suitable location for such activities is determined and documented by the line officer or designee to be within occupied NIDGS habitat. In no case will the decision to place these activities inside occupied NIDGS habitat be delayed when the line officer or designee determines safety or loss of human life or structures is at imminent risk.
	Standard	0276	Once a WFSA is approved, avoid delivery of chemical retardant, foam, or additives to all surfaces within occupied NIDGS habitat unless: a) The line officer or designee determines that imminent safety to human life or protection of structures is an issue; OR b) The incident resource advisor determines and documents an escaped fire would cause more degradation to occupied NIDGS habitat, than would be caused by chemical, foam or additive delivery to the habitat. In no case will the decision to avoid delivery of chemical retardant, foam or additives to occupied NIDGS habitat be delayed when the line officer or designee determines safety or loss of human life or protection of structures is at imminent risk
	Guideline	0277	Coordinate with the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, State of Idaho, and the BLM to develop compatible wildland fire suppression and wildland fire use strategies.
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	0278	Prepare new site plans for the Lynes Point and Smith Mountain communications sites to meet agency policy requirements and to eliminate the potential for use conflicts.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	0279	Use land ownership adjustments to acquire northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat to contribute to recovery efforts.
	Guideline	0280	Give preference to analysis and approval of authorizations for new rights-of-way or other utility–related facilities requested within the utility corridors in this area (Oxbow-McCall power line corridor, Council-Cuprum Road corridor).
Facilities and Roads	Objective	0281	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Rock Creek, Salt Creek-Black Canyon, Lower Brownlee Creek, East Brownlee Creek, West Brownlee Creek, and Dennett Creek subwatersheds. Methods to consider 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.